

# THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3139.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1887.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## CHRISTMAS LECTURES. ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

Sir ROBERT STAWELL BALL, LL.D. F.R.S., Royal Astronomer of Ireland, will, on TUESDAY NEXT (December 27), at 3 o'clock, begin a COURSE OF SIX LECTURES (adapted to a Juvenile Audience), on Astronomy: the Sun, Moon, Planets, Comets, and Stars, to be continued on December 29, 31, 1887, and January 3, 5, 7, 1888. Subscription (for Non-Members) to this Course, One Guinea (Children under 16, Half-a-Guinea); to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

COURSES BEFORE EASTER, 1888.  
G. J. ROMANES, Esq., F.R.S., TEN LECTURES, "Before and After Darwin."  
H. HERKOMER, Esq., THREE LECTURES on the Walker School, &c.  
Prof. C. H. PARRY, FOUR LECTURES on Early Secular Choral Music.

The Rev. W. H. DALLINGER, F.R.S., THREE LECTURES on Microscopical Work with recent Lenses.  
LORD RAYLEIGH, F.R.S., SEVEN LECTURES on Experimental Optics.

WILLIAM ARCHER, Esq., THREE LECTURES on the Modern Drama.

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE, AND ART, GLASGOW, 1888.

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President—The Most Hon. THE MARQUESS OF BUTE, K.T.  
Joint Chairmen—Francis Powell, Esq., R. W. S. Robt. Crawford, Esq.

The Fine Arts Section will include both a Loan and a Sale Collection. Works in Oil, Water Colour, Black and White, Photography, Sculpture, and Architectural Drawing and Design will be admissible.

Receiving Days—London: Last Day, March 10, 1888. Agent, Mr. James Bourne, 17, Nassau-street, Middlesex Hospital, London. Edinburgh: Last Day, March 10, 1888. Agent, Mr. Thomas Wilson, 121, George-street, Edinburgh. Glasgow: Week ending March 24, 1888, at the Exhibition Buildings, Kelvingrove.—For Prospectus, &c., apply to ROBERT WALKER, Corresponding Secretary, Fine Arts Section, International Exhibition Offices, 27, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow.

## NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE FINE-ART EXHIBITION, 1888.—Under the Management of the Bewick Club, and Official Patronage of the Worshipful the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Corporation.

OPENS JANUARY 20, 1888.  
Last receiving day by London, Messrs. Dolman & Son, 6, New Compton-street, Soho, W.C. Edinburgh: Thos. Wilson, 121, George-street, Glasgow: Geo. Davidson, 123, Sauchiehall-street, December 31st. Newcastle-upon-Tyne: John Hayter, January 6th. Further information from T. DICKINSON, Hon. Sec. Bewick Club, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

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(Eighteenth Series.)  
THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 5th.—Karl Nawratil: Op. 17, Second Quintet for Piano and Strings (new).—Bach: Partita in B minor.—Schumann: Op. 44, Quintet for Piano and Strings. Songs by Grieg and Brahms.

JANUARY 12th.—Trio in D minor for Piano and Strings.—Grieg: Op. 45, Third Sonata for Piano and Violin (new).—Brahms: Op. 99, Second Sonata, F major, for Piano and Violoncello.—C. Hubert H. Parry: Second Trio, B minor, for Piano and Strings. Songs by Robert Franz and Tchaikovsky.

FEBRUARY 2nd.—Brahms: Op. 101, Fourth Trio, C minor, for Piano and Strings.—C. Hubert H. Parry: Trio in D minor for Violin and Piano.—Beethoven: Op. 97, Trio in B flat for Piano and Strings. Songs.

FEBRUARY 16th.—Albert Becker: Op. 49, Quintet, E flat, for Piano and Strings (new).—Bach: Sonata in F minor for Violin and "Clavier."—Beethoven: Op. 108, Sonata in E.—C. V. Stanford: Quintet, D minor, for Piano and Strings. Songs. Violin: Mr. Alfred Gibson, Herr Gompertz, Mr. Grimsdon. Viola: Mr. Emil Kreuz, Violoncello: Mr. Charles Ould. Piano: Mr. Dannreuther. Vocalist: Miss Little.

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The Office of PRINCIPAL of this COLLEGE is rendered VACANT on April 19th, 1888, by the Election of the Rev. H. E. Ryle to the Hulsean Professorship at Cambridge. The Principal's stipend exceeds 800l. per annum, with a good house, rent free, rates and taxes paid by College. The Principal has hitherto been Professor of Theology and of Greek. The College Staff at present consists of Principal, Vice-Principal, and Six Professors. The College is empowered by Charter to confer Degrees of B.A. and B.D. It is affiliated to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. Candidates must be in Holy Orders and have taken the Degree of M.A. at Oxford or Cambridge. No restriction of age. Further information as to the mode of election and duties, &c., of the Principal, along with copies of the "Charters and Statutes" of the College, may be procured by application to "THE MANCIPLE," St. David's College, Lampeter. The names of Candidates, with testimonials and references, must be sent up to the Rev. the Honorary Professor of Divinity, Christ Church, Oxford, not later than SATURDAY, January 21, 1888.

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PARIS.—The ATHENÆUM can be obtained on SATURDAY at the Galignani Library, 224, Rue de Rivoli.

THE SOMERSET ARCHEOLOGICAL and NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY are preparing a printed CATALOGUE of their LIBRARY, and the Committee think the present opportunity should be taken advantage of by Somerset men and others who desire to make any addition to the already valuable Library of the Society, with a view of including in the Catalogue the latest acquisitions. Taunton Castle, December, 1887.

M. A. DORANGE, Ancien Bibliothécaire, Officier de l'Instruction Publique, repêché dans sa famille UN SUEL ÉLÈVE pour lui enseigner la Française.—S'adresser à Tours, 16, Avenue de Grammont. Référence, S. ALEXANDER, Esq., Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford.

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SUCCESSSES, 1886-1887.

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A. Guinness.		C. Hardman.
St. Leger Nott.		P. C. Parker.
J. Quain.		R. D. Symonds.

WOOLWICH QUALIFYING.

(December, 1887.)		
Brown.	Fife.	Ayre.
A. H. Appleton.		E. Wintour.
E. Clark.		W. Johnston-Stewart.
C. A. W. Ford.		G. Capron.
R. P. Robertson-Glasgow.		C. Gosling.
C. V. W. Lyne.		D. M. Miller.
H. J. Madocks.		F. M. Pirrie.
R. E. D. Thornton.		T. W. Underwood.
G. Puckle.		

PRELIMINARY. 47 passed.  
MILITIA LITERARY. 15 passed.  
MILITARY COMPETITIVE.—This Department, which is carried on in separate buildings, is in charge of a Retired Colonel, Graduate of the Staff College, formerly Garrison Instructor, and more recently Professor at Sandhurst.

SIXTEEN OFFICERS have lately secured Commissions direct from Hill Lands.  
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N.B.—NEXT TERM BEGINS JANUARY 3.

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Col. G. H. Moncrieff (Assistant Military Secretary, Headquarters).  
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Persia and Afghanistan, and ultimately Colombo." No ship or steamer was to be resorted to; all was to be *bonâ fide* land travel, "except when passing over the narrow strait of Adam's Bridge."

The programme was not carried out as intended. The travellers left London in July, 1839. On the way Layard caught a fever, which developed at Constantinople into a gastric attack, and compelled him to keep his bed. After a course of sharp treatment he recovered sufficiently to overtake his comrade at Mudania, south of the Sea of Marmora, but by boat. This deviation from the original plan of procedure was followed by a second temporary separation, for after proceeding together to Jerusalem Layard, on the 15th of January, 1840, started alone for Petra, and did not rejoin Mitford until some few weeks later at Aleppo. Hence on March 18th the two journeyed together to Baghdad, arriving there on the 2nd of May. On the 2nd of June, "pronounced by a Mulla, after consulting the Koran," to be "a profitable day for commencing a journey," they joined a caravan outside the gates, and would have made their first march towards the Turco-Persian frontier; but a muleteers' wrangle, in which the "Karwân-Bâshi" was himself the principal performer, detained them near the city walls, and they did not fairly get away till the day following. Reaching Hamadan (Ecbatana) by the usual road through Karmânshah and Kangawâr, they were kept in that town for nearly a month, owing to difficulties about the *firman* requisite to enable them to follow their route eastward. Eventually, when the obstacles were removed, they were no longer to travel together, a new and this time permanent separation taking place. On the 8th of August they rode out to the village of Shaverin, where they dined with some French officers, and parted company—Mitford to take a long journey through the north of Persia to Kandahar and India; Layard to return to Hamadan and make fresh attempts to find a passage through Eastern Persia into Sistan, and so on to the track of the other.

Sir Henry's book may thus be divided into two parts: the first and shorter descriptive of his wanderings in Palestine and Syria during a temporary separation from his fellow traveller; the second and longer relating his experiences in Ispahan and Central Persia, Susiana, the country of the Bakhtiyâris, and Turkish Arabia, when left to his own resources. A supplementary section may be added for the last two chapters, which bring events up to 1845, and treat of employment at Constantinople and in the provinces of European Turkey. It should be noted that the author purposely avoids narrating any joint adventures, on the plea that such narrative has been forestalled by Mr. Mitford's publication of his 'Land March from England to Ceylon' (a notice of which appeared in the *Athenæum* of the 2nd of August, 1884). As for the original project of finding his way overland to India, he does not seem to have abandoned it until revisiting Baghdad in 1842, when the receipt of letters from England led him to turn his thoughts homeward. He had then written his memoir on Khuzistan, describing the country, inhabit-

ants, and resources, "with a view to showing the importance of establishing political and commercial relations with it"; and he had induced an enterprising British merchant, established at Baghdad, "to enter into communication... with some of the principal landholders of Shuster," so as to bring about, if possible, an exchange of native local products with British manufactures.

Though our extracts will mainly be taken from the second part of the work, space may be found for a little incident detailed in the earlier pages. It illustrates a kind of initiation into the treatment which might be expected from Arab practitioners if called in to attend a European patient. Layard was at the black tents of Sheikh Abu-Dhavam, south of Hebron and near the western shores of the Dead Sea:—

"I had slept little, as I was suffering greatly from a toothache. The Sheikh declared that there was a skilful dentist in the encampment; and as the pain was almost unbearable, I made up my mind to put myself in his hands rather than endure it any longer. He was accordingly sent for. He was a tall, muscular Arab. His instruments consisted of a short knife or razor, and a kind of iron awl. He bade me sit on the ground, and then took my head firmly between his knees. After cutting away the gums he applied the awl to the roots of the tooth, and, striking the other end of it with all his might, expected to see the tooth fly into the air. But it was a double one, and not to be removed by such means from the jaw. The awl slipped and made a severe wound in my palate. He insisted on a second trial, declaring that he could not but succeed. But the only result was that he broke off a large piece of the tooth, and I had suffered sufficient agony to decline a third experiment."

From Hamadan, after Mr. Mitford's departure, Layard proceeded to Ispahan. He had hoped to avoid the usual road and keep close to the great hill range of Luristan, and at Burujird he had proposed to strike across the Bakhtiyâri mountains to Shuster; but sickness and various other obstacles prevented the fulfilment of his wishes, and he was compelled to turn eastward and seek a more direct road through the Feridun district and Tehrun. At one village he had found a Georgian Christian colony established by Shah Abbas. The inhabitants had retained their native language and religion; their features differed from those of the surrounding populations; their women went unveiled, and many were "strikingly handsome"; their gardens and orchards had a prosperous appearance. In another Christian village, Adun, the inconvenience he underwent from the curiosity of the native community leads our author to contrast their behaviour unfavourably with that of Muslims. "This may arise," he says, "from the inferior position which they hold, and from the ill treatment they have experienced for so many generations from their Mohammedan rulers." At Ispahan Layard, suffering on first arrival from severe ague and dysentery, was hospitably received by, and remained for some days the guest of, M. Eugène Boré, a French gentleman and an accomplished Oriental scholar. That he afterwards removed his quarters to a "ruined house" occupied by Mr. Burgess, an English merchant of Tabriz, must be attributed as much to the political complications of the day as to personal susceptibility. In

any case he was detained, owing to the customary dilatoriness and evasions of Persian authorities and executives, for some five weeks before again resuming his journey.

The murder of Dr. Forbes in Sistan had at this time become known at Ispahan, and the Mu'tamad'u'd-daulah, or then governor, would not hear of an English traveller moving, with his authority, in that direction. There was no alternative, therefore, but to revert to the Shuster project. How this was put into execution, and the journeys that followed, will be found related in the eighth and remaining chapters of this book. Up to the point reached, indeed, there is no lack of romantic adventure. Further on the narrative may be said to bristle with exciting incident, and the narrator's life seems to have hung by a thread at many periods of his eventful history. He is in peril from robbers, treachery, sickness, wild beasts; he is robbed of horses, clothes, money; he is in prison, in want, undergoing sore trials, moral and physical. Here is a passage from his experiences in the region of the Lower Euphrates:—

"After we had eaten some kibabs and rice in a cook-shop in the bazar, we mounted our horses. We soon left behind us the palm groves and the great mounds which cover the palaces of ancient Babylon, and found ourselves on the broad and well-beaten caravan track leading to Baghdad. Parties of irregular horse were stationed at the caravanserais which have been built at regular distances on the much-frequented road between Hillah and Baghdad. Their officers assured us that the road was safe, as the Bedouins had retired to the desert, pursued by the Pasha's troops. We had passed the third of these great buildings, when we saw in the distance, amidst a cloud of dust, a number of horsemen galloping towards us. We at first took them for 'hytas'—as the Bashi-Bozuks were called by the Arabs—in the service of the Government, sent out to patrol the road, but as they approached we heard the Bedouin war-cry. The postman, who was much alarmed, proposed that we should endeavour, by urging on our horses, to reach the nearest caravanserai before the Arabs could overtake us. But as they were rapidly gaining upon us, and it was evident that we had no chance in a race against their high-bred mares, I thought the most prudent course would be to remain where we were, and to trust to my character as a European. The horsemen, who proved to be of the Shammar tribe, were soon upon us. One or two, galloping at full speed towards me, brought their mares up on their haunches when their long quivering spears were almost within a few inches of my body. In an instant, and before I had time to make myself known, the Agayl and I were thrown from our horses. When I fell my 'keffiyeh' dropped off, and exposed a red 'tarbush,' or fez, which I wore under it to protect my head from the sun. One of the Arabs cried out that I was a 'Toork,' and a man who had dismounted, seizing hold of me as I lay upon the ground, drew a knife and endeavoured to kneel upon my chest. I struggled, thinking that he intended to cut my throat, and called out to one of the party, who, mounted upon a fine mare, appeared to be a sheikh, that I was not a 'Toork,' but an Englishman. He ordered the man to release me, and then told me to get up. He was a handsome young man, with a pleasing expression, the most brilliant and restless eyes, the whitest teeth, which he constantly displayed, and long tresses of braided hair falling from under his 'keffiyeh.' Looking at me for a moment he exclaimed, 'Billah! he tells the truth. He is the English "hakim" (doctor) of Baghdad, and he is my friend, and the English are the friends of our tribe!' Then,

addressing himself to me, he asked me why I was there alone and without the protection of Sofuk, the great sheikh of the Shammar, who was known to be at war with that 'dog, the son of a dog,' the Pasha of Baghdad, and to have defeated his troops and occupied his country. It was evident that he either took me for Dr. Ross, of Baghdad, who had more than once visited the celebrated chief of the Shammar, and was well known to the tribe, or that he desired to protect me, and had invented an excuse for doing so."

This is but one of many similar scenes described, and may be accepted as a fair sample of the rest. Within another hundred pages Layard is at the "so-called tomb" of Daniel:—

"The vast mound which marks the site of the ancient city of Susa, the capital of Susiana and Elymais, was visible in the distance, and as we drew near it appeared to me to be little inferior in size to the Mujelib, the principal ruin of Babylon. We rode first to the tomb—the principal object of my visit. I found it to be a building of comparatively modern date, resembling the Imaum-Zadehs, or tombs and shrines of Musulman saints constantly met with in Khuzistan, surmounted by a high conical dome of irregular brick-work—somewhat resembling in shape a pine-cone. I entered through a gate into a court, in which pilgrims find a resting-place for the night, safe from wild beasts and Arab thieves. A dark inner chamber, opening upon an outer room, contained the so-called tomb—a square case of plaster which might be supposed either to cover a grave or to enclose a coffin. Above it were suspended some ostrich eggs and lamps.....The tomb was surrounded by a wooden trellis.....In the outer chamber I observed one or two small capitals of columns in marble, and in the courtyard a larger one of the same material, with a kind of lotus-leaf ornament, one foot ten inches in height. They were of the early Persian or Persepolitan period. ....The building, surrounded by a few konar trees and palms, stands on the bank of a small sluggish stream, called by the Arabs the Shaour, which rises in the plain not far from the ruins. I found the remains of a flight of steps, built of large dressed stones, leading down to the water's edge. Amongst them was a slab, with a bas-relief, which has been described as a man between two lions, and has been converted by a lively imagination into Daniel in the lions' den. ....There had formerly been preserved within the tomb a black stone, or slab, said to have been covered with mystical signs and human figures. ....The dervish informed me that it had been broken into pieces by two Arabs.....as they believed that it contained gold."

Those who had the privilege of knowing the late Lord Stratford de Redcliffe will not fail to recognize this portrait:—

"His hair was already white. His tall and spare frame was not altogether erect, as he had the habit of stooping. There was, perhaps, a somewhat too evident assumption of dignity and reserve in his manner, which was intended to impress people with the utmost respect for the Queen's Ambassador, and if the occasion required it, with awe. His earnest grey eyes seemed to penetrate into one's very thoughts. His thin, compressed lips denoted a violent and passionate temper. His complexion was so transparent that the least emotion, whether of pleasure or anger, was at once shown by its varying tints. A broad and massive overhanging brow gave him an air of profound wisdom and sagacity. He was altogether a very formidable-looking personage, and he made upon me the impression which he, no doubt, intended to produce."

One more extract and we take leave of a book which will at once commend itself to

lovers of this class of literature. It relates to the late Mr. Charles Alison, H.B.M. Minister in Persia, at the time he was chief interpreter to the British embassy at Constantinople:—

"Sir Stratford Canning had sent him on one occasion to transact some business of moment with the Grand Vizir, who was a Turk of the old school, notorious for his bigotry and intolerance and his hatred of Christians. In the middle of the business which they were discussing the Prime Minister rose from his seat, and proceeded to say his customary prayers on a carpet which an attendant had spread for him on the floor. He concluded them with the usual curses, very audibly and significantly uttered, upon all 'giaours,' or infidels, and to show his aversion to them went through the motion of spitting over his right and left shoulder. He then resumed his seat, and renewed the conversation as if nothing had occurred to interrupt it. After a short interval Alison left the divan, and going into a corner of the room began to repeat in Turkish, and in an audible voice, an extemporary prayer, in which he invoked similar curses upon the followers of Mohammed. The Grand Vizir jumped up in a violent passion, and reminded him of the fate which, according to the Musulman law, was reserved for those who dared to blaspheme the religion of Islam and its Prophet. Alison very quietly replied that, like the Pasha himself, he had only performed a duty in saying his prayers at that particular hour of the day, and that he had no doubt that the denunciations that they contained against Mohammedans were as much a matter of form, and of as little significance, as the curses which his Highness had, a short time before, launched against those who professed the Christian faith."

The above anecdote would be held incredible in reference to ordinary men; but he of whom it is now told had not only an eccentric humour of his own, but his knowledge of Turks and Turkish was such as is possessed by few, if any, Europeans.

*Greek Life and Thought, from the Age of Alexander to the Roman Conquest.* By J. P. Mahaffy. (Macmillan & Co.)

PROF. MAHAFFY has taken a magnificent subject, and has treated it, considering the limits to which he is confined, with extraordinary ability. The limits, indeed, are of his own choosing; but if they are too narrow, Prof. Mahaffy would, perhaps, lay blame on the public, which nowadays, as in the days of Callimachus, regards a big book as a big nuisance. The present volume is a sequel to the excellent and popular study by the same author on 'Greek Social Life from Homer to Menander.' It deals with the life and thought of those vast realms over which, after the expedition of Alexander, the Greek language was diffused. The change effected by Alexander's conquests is usually regarded from the point of view of the subject peoples, and named "Hellenism." But it might almost as well be considered from the Greek side, and called "Orientalism." It affected Greek idiom, Greek manners, Greek morals, Greek philosophy, Greek science, Greek politics, Greek commerce; and it is a tenable opinion that, except in language, the Greeks learned almost as much as they taught. At any rate, during the two centuries B.C. 300-100 a singular assimilation of life and thought was going on among all the varied peoples who lived, roughly speaking, between the parallels of Byzantium and



Memphis and between the meridians of Elis and Susa. The process, moreover, was directed, so to say, from a vast number of centres, many of which had, for a time at least, a speciality, and none of which should be neglected by the historian. The Hellenism of philosophy, for instance, centres chiefly in Athens; the Hellenism of commerce in Rhodes; of science and literature in Alexandria; of art, mainly in Pergamum; but Byzantium, Antioch, Tarsus, and other cities, and even the highlands of Achaia and Ætolia, must be noticed in the purview. Such is the world—a world almost unknown even to scholars—of which during the two centuries above mentioned Prof. Mahaffy attempts to give a general account in less than six hundred octavo pages. It was to be expected that he would fail, and in a sense he does fail. But in another sense he does not. He has most carefully considered all the bearings of his subject; and there is no important department of Hellenism and no important centre of Hellenistic culture of which some distinct mention is not to be found somewhere in these pages. To have written them at all would be creditable; but to have written them *currente calamo*, with a hundred "quips and cranks and wanton wiles," is a literary *tour de force* of which probably no other scholar but Prof. Mahaffy is capable. It is true that he had Droysens and Hertzberg and Couat and other predecessors to help him; but the book is undoubtedly his own, and could not have been written without an enormous acquaintance with the original authorities.

In truth—and this is the chief criticism that can be made—the original authorities are far too often quoted at large, and the book is perpetually falling from history to anecdote. It is a mosaic in which the reader is always searching for the pattern, and only gets a headache for his pains. Prof. Mahaffy might say that he could not make a pattern with his materials; but he does not say so, and it would not be true if he did, and *a priori* the reader has a right to expect that a short book, dealing with a definite epoch and describing a state of affairs undoubtedly produced by only one cause, is designed to illustrate some striking and uniform tendency. The absence of such design here is distinctly disappointing. One critic might console himself by thinking that the idea of the book is to glorify cosmopolitanism and to denounce the petty patriotism of Home Rulers. Another might, with equal reason, maintain that Prof. Mahaffy is having a fling at Oxford and Cambridge dons, and has collected together in one neat volume all the subjects of which those "schoolboys" are grossly ignorant. The professor, indeed, is not innocent of these humorous intentions, yet the book is no skit. It is a good picture and a true one, but absolutely devoid of chiaroscuro. The only review possible is a description of its contents. It begins with a long chronological table in columns appropriated to various districts. We next have a short account of Alexander and the Diadochi and the princesses of their courts. Then Hellas, and especially Athens and her literature and philosophy, are discussed. Then Alexandria and her literature, Pergamum and Syria, Rhodes next, and then Hellas again and the Achæan league are introduced. A chapter on social life, properly

so called, and dealing mainly with the rise of universities, now follows; but we plunge immediately afterwards into politics again with an account of the gradual encroachments of Rome and the indignation of Greeks. The next sixty pages are devoted chiefly to Jewish Hellenism and the Apocrypha. At last Prof. Mahaffy says: "It remains for us now to take stock of all the various accounts we have kept with various branches of Hellenism, and form a general estimate of the state of the eastern Mediterranean lands when they fell under the power of Rome." It is characteristic of the book that this "stock-taking" consists of a long critique on Polybius, followed by a number of anecdotes recorded by him, illustrating treachery, cowardice, and politeness on great occasions. It will be seen, however, what opportunities the subject affords for such extracts, and it need not be said that Prof. Mahaffy is a most amusing *raconteur*. There is no better book to take up at random and read a few chapters.

*The Early Life of Samuel Rogers.* By P. W. Clayden. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

ALTHOUGH more than thirty years have gone by since the death of Rogers, it cannot be said that his biographer has undertaken a thankless task. At the close of the last century, in the days of Pye, Hayley, and the Della Cruscans, no poet was more popular than the author of 'The Pleasures of Memory,' and fifty years ago no name was more familiar in literary circles. Rogers's laboriously polished verse no longer holds the reader captive; it has ceased to be read even by young ladies; but as a man of taste and culture who lived on terms of intimacy with the most remarkable personages of his time, he has considerable claims to attention. For a long course of years his house in St. James's Place was one of the most distinguished in London. Thither came the great poets whose light had caused his to dwindle, and there statesmen, wits, and politicians—all that was brightest in genius and keenest in intellect—found welcome and appreciation. It may be safely said that if Rogers had died at the age of thirty his verse would not have preserved his memory; but he lived through ninety years of eventful history, and was familiar with the principal actors in an age which in its political, literary, and social aspects is, perhaps, the most significant in our annals. He was a school-boy when America was declared independent, he had reached the mature age of thirty when Louis XVI. was guillotined, he was upwards of fifty when Wellington won Waterloo, and he lived long enough to see the third Napoleon on the throne of France. When Rogers was born, London was a city of 700,000 inhabitants; as a boy he remembered seeing the heads of traitors upon Temple Bar, and he knew a general who had shot snipes in Conduit Street; as an old man he lived as we live now, travelled by railroad instead of on horseback, used the electric telegraph, and sent his letters by penny post. In literature, as well as in political and social life, Rogers witnessed great changes. Whitehead was Laureate when he was born, and having on the death of Wordsworth wisely refused the office himself, he lived to see it worthily filled by

Lord Tennyson. Men still in their prime who remember this patriarchal poet find it difficult to realize that he was the youthful friend of Fox and Sheridan, of Priestley and Price; that he listened to the last discourse of Sir Joshua Reynolds; that he was on friendly terms with Boswell and the Piozzis, and might, had his courage not failed him, have shaken hands with Dr. Johnson. Years passed on, and the friend of Adam Smith and of the historian Robertson became the host and intimate associate of Byron and Moore, of Campbell and Scott. At his breakfast table Coleridge is said to have talked admirably about poetry for three hours without intermission, and there Sydney Smith gave free scope to his wit, but was, if we may believe Rogers, who hated him, "absolutely overpowered by the superior facetiousness" of the now forgotten William Bankes. Rogers's early life covers a period of forty years, and closes with his settlement in St. James's Place.

So far as circumstances are concerned, a young man could hardly have been more fortunate. His childhood was spent in a happy home, and at the age of thirty, on his father's death, he became the senior partner of the bank with a secure income of 5,000*l.* a year. Already he was recognized as a popular poet, for after spending six years in "polishing 'The Pleasures of Memory' to perfection," that poem had appeared in 1792. It won its reputation at a bound.

"Omitting the sales of the first four editions, of which no clear record is preserved.....the total issue of the work from the publication of the fifth edition in 1793 to the nineteenth in 1816 was 22,350 copies. This was one of the greatest literary successes of the time."

'The Pleasures of Memory' was published at a fortunate period for the author. Hayley's star was in the ascendant, and the Della Cruscans, with whom, by the way, Rogers associated, had not as yet received their death-blow. The public of 1792 were pleased to welcome "a child of Goldsmith," and were perhaps not sufficiently critical to find out that the son was infinitely inferior to his father. Enough that the poet's feeling was good, and his lines harmonious; if his verse lacked distinctness and would not always bear examination, it had, no doubt, a soothing charm which could be appreciated without effort. Having revived our recollection of the poem before writing this article, we find it difficult to understand the judgment that pronounced it a work of genius. Mr. Clayden, with a biographer's partiality, calls it a classic; and it is well known how Byron, with the critical perversity that distinguished him, having pronounced Scott the monarch of Parnassus, declared that of living poets he should place Rogers next. We think, on the other hand, that Hazlitt is nearer the truth when he says of the poet's once popular work that it is wanting in intelligible ideas, and that "you cannot see the thought for the ambiguity of the language." Hazlitt loves exaggeration, and in his comments on 'The Pleasures of Memory' follows his bent freely; but if there be harshness in his verdict there is also justice, and the fact that the poem is now neglected is by no means explained by Mr. Clayden's statement that "classics are for the few."

Hitherto Rogers had lived with his family,

and had followed his two vocations of banker and poet with exemplary diligence. From time to time his daily work had been interrupted by illness, and then we read of long rides on horseback through England, Wales, and Scotland. It is evident that he was a good son and an affectionate brother, and his uncertain health seems to have given him the privileges of sickness without its irritations. Among the friends of this early period were Mrs. Barbauld and Joanna Baillie, two delightful women who, it is to be feared, are passing out of remembrance. Another of his intimate acquaintances at this time was Miss Helen Williams, a lady who figured as a poet at eighteen, and wrote a sonnet that had the good fortune of winning the praise of Wordsworth. She was full of admiration for the French Revolution and went to reside in Paris, where as an adherent of the Girondists she was imprisoned, and "but for an oversight would have been carried with their leaders to the guillotine." When in Scotland Rogers made the acquaintance of Mackenzie, the author of 'The Man of Feeling,' and for five-and-forty years, we are told, an intercourse was maintained between them. In early manhood Rogers had obviously acquired the taste for the society of men and women of culture which clung to him through life.

For six or seven years after his father's death he lived in chambers, and during this transition period—when, according to his biographer, he was hesitating between a suburban and a town life—he made the acquaintance of four men who probably exerted the greatest influence on his life:—

"These were Fox, Sheridan, Tooke, and Richard Sharp. Rogers not only belonged to Fox's school in politics, but was a devoted admirer of the great Whig statesman and orator. His 'Recollections' of Fox are among the most interesting and valuable of the treasures his tenacious memory has allowed him to preserve from oblivion and to hand down to posterity. His intimate association with the Whig leaders for the first fifty years of this century was begun by his acquaintance with Fox, if it may not be said to have arisen out of it. With Sheridan his connection was of another kind. The great orator and dramatist became the recipient of much assistance from the poet; who stood by him to the last when the great world had left him to die in poverty and neglect. Richard Sharp was destined to become Rogers's closest and most intimate friend. He had much to do in making Rogers's life what it afterwards became, and had more influence on his poetry as well as on his character than any other of the friends of his maturer years.....His judgment was trusted by all who knew him, and in later years statesmen went to him for counsel and advice. It would scarcely be too much to say that he was the most popular man in London society in his time. His familiar *sobriquet* of 'Conversation' Sharp indicated only his most striking faculty, but his power of sympathy, his insight, his large reading and culture, more forcibly impressed themselves on his friends than even his conversational powers."

Mr. Clayden, by the way, writes of Sharp settling "in that lovely district of Kent which is now for ever associated with his name"; but Sharp never resided in Kent, and his well-known residence of Fredley Farm is between Box Hill and Mickleham, in one of the choicest spots in Surrey.

Though Rogers never married, he was highly susceptible. At Margate, he tells

his friend Sharp, he spent a week almost entirely in the company of a girl "whose face you know, whose beauty you must have felt, at least I did." He adds that he could have wept at the sight of her, for she seemed sinking, but when she left Margate he "looked about for somebody else." His second flame "tortured him beyond description," and his third—for they came in rapid succession—distracted him. Why he did not marry, Mr. Clayden states, is unknown:—

"It was to Lady Jersey that Rogers once expressed his regret that he was not married—a regret that he often felt and expressed, especially in his later years. 'If I had a wife,' he said, 'I should have somebody to care about me.' 'How could you be sure,' asked Lady Jersey in reply, 'that your wife would not care more about somebody else than about you?'"

Apparently the chief diversion of Rogers's early life was verse-making. At this he toiled with a hope and care which, when we consider the result, are almost pathetic. After the labour of six years he published in 1798 'An Epistle to a Friend,' a poem of 222 lines, which of all his pieces, as Sir Henry Taylor justly says, "will perhaps be read with the most pleasure." We do not know upon what ground Mr. Clayden declares authoritatively that this poem expressed the struggle that was really passing in Rogers's mind at the time, and that he was

"standing with the open door before him, considering for a moment whether it was best to enter and mingle with the crowd or whether he should say to his soul:—

Be thine to meditate a humbler flight  
When morning fills the fields with rosy light.  
Be thine to blend—nor thine a vulgar aim—  
Repose with dignity: with Quiet fame.

His actual mental attitude was probably that of one who was conscious that he should go forward, yet who cherished an unaffected admiration for much that he should leave behind, and who puts on permanent record his resolution to keep his early faith in 'simple comforts and domestic rites.'

What Rogers's faith was we do not know, what his practice was we do, and we venture to say that his tirade against

the maddening strife  
And all the dull impertinence of life

is mere poetical verbiage, and as unreal as the wish he expressed to live in a cot beside a hill with Lucy and a spinning-wheel.

After the publication of the 'Epistle,' Rogers devoted himself to the study of the principles of art as applied to household furnishing. He also indulged in a course of classical literature, studying the principal Greek and Roman authors in English and French translations. For this purpose, as well as for the sake of health, he spent some months at Exmouth, where he almost persuaded himself he liked quiet. Then we read of the poet in Paris in 1802, when Bonaparte, as Consul, was living sumptuously at St. Cloud, and Madame Récamier outshone the Consul himself, her bath and bedchamber being hung with silks of many colours, and lighted with aromatic lamps and alabaster vases.

Mr. Clayden's volume closes with the poet's entire release from business cares and settlement in St. James's Place. His chief wish seems to have been to surround himself with pleasant things and to live in pleasant society. It was not a lofty ideal, but it was one that could be pursued

with success, and the credit due to a man who forms a plan of life and carries it out successfully must be awarded to Rogers. The next volume, which will narrate the story of his life in London for half a century, will probably be more attractive than the present, and we shall look for it with curiosity. Mr. Clayden writes with sympathy, but certainly with too much admiration for his hero. But the fault is one to be readily pardoned, and he has done his task, on the whole, with ability and discretion.

*Loecrine: a Tragedy.* By Algernon Charles Swinburne. (Chatto & Windus.)

In these days a play on the subject of one of England's mythical kings has at least the charm of novelty, and yet we scarcely know why. The legendary lore of the world is not born of accident, but is an organic growth. Indeed, the paradox might easily be maintained that the chapter of accidents is not the chapter of myth, but rather the chapter of facts. For what is legend but those expressions in concrete form of the universal elements of humanity which Clio stammers over and tries in vain to express? Cleared, so to speak, from all superfluous adulterations of mere historic fact, what is legend but an absolute expression—untrammelled by those hard and unbending conditions which circumscribe history—of the very soul of man? As from age to age the long human drama slowly unfolds itself towards that mysterious *peripeteia* of which the philosopher and the savage dream in a most equal darkness, the general mind has become haunted by inherited conceptions, by imaginary pictures, tragic, pathetic, terrible, or beautiful, of man as a spiritual and as a material being—man placed in every possible attitude towards his fellow man, in every possible attitude towards the universe. And these conceptions become embodied in legends, which take shape and flourish according to the quality of the racial soil where from time to time they find root-hold. For instance, the idea of wifely allegiance turned, by the strife of dark passions, to murderous hate, which in Greek legend finds appropriate local expression in the story of Agamemnon and Clytemnestra, and in Scandinavian legend finds expression in the story of Sigurd and Brynhild, becomes in English legend the story which Mr. Swinburne has here dramatized—the story which attracted the attention of Spenser, of Drayton, of Milton—the story of Loecrine's infidelity and Guendolen's revenge. Again, the beautiful idea of an ill-used child returning good for evil—fostering in his hour of need the unjust parent who is being lacerated by the ingratitude of those in whose favour he has been unjust—which finds in Indian legend its natural expression in the story of the loving son taking upon himself the infirmities of his father's age in order to mitigate his woes, becomes in European legend a story in which a daughter takes the part of the devoted son—becomes, in short, the story of Theodosius and his family, or else the story of Lear and his Cordelia. It is this universality of its appeal which, down to Shakspeare's time—down, indeed, to the very close of the great drama—caused the legendary lore of the world to be recognized



as the best of all materials for tragedy. No wonder, then, that upon legend, and not upon history, have been built the greatest dramas not only of England, but of the world—no wonder that it is because of their freedom from the hard constrictions of fact that the 'Oresteia,' 'Edipus Tyrannus,' 'Macbeth,' 'Othello,' and 'Faust' are—what they are. And no wonder that the legendary history of England should have been so largely drawn upon by our old dramatists—no wonder that Shakspeare should have been so fond of it (or else should have found his audience so fond of it) that even in dramatizing a story of Boccaccio's he must needs, to give it an added charm, shift the scene from Italy to the mythical Britain of the mythical Cymbeline's time.

And this brings us near to the question that we have before now asked when speaking of that pedantic old play of 'Loocrine' which Tieck and Schlegel gravely accepted as Shakspeare's: "Being so fond of these national legends, why did not Shakspeare take up the story which would have afforded him the opportunity of depicting the one phase of human passion which is more tragic than all others—the one cry of the human soul the omission of which from his far-reaching gamut has left it incomplete—the cry of a woman in a revolt against wifely allegiance—the cry of a woman whose love has been turned by the warring of other passions to hate?" Of all the aspects of human passion this is the most terrible, but also it is the most fascinating; moreover the motive was in Shakspeare's time practically unworked. In no first-rate play, perhaps, has it been worked, unless, indeed (which is dubious), Æschylus intended us to infer that Clytemnestra had loved Agamemnon before the sacrifice of Iphigenia. And here was a legend—a British legend—to hand; for, with the sole exception of the story of Fair Rosamond, this picturesque legend of the king whose passion for a captured princess and whose unfaithfulness to his wife cause a disastrous civil war, resulting in his own death and that of the offspring of his illicit love, is perhaps the only legend that gives full opportunity for the rendering of this motive. And it was, if not so popular as the story of Lear, still exceedingly popular. It is told not only in the 'Lamentable Tragedie of Loocrine' before alluded to, but in the 'Faerie Queene,' in the 'Polyolbion,' in the 'Mirror for Magistrates,' &c. Why, then, did not Shakspeare seize upon a subject which would seem at first sight to afford so admirable an opportunity for him to complete his study of the passions? Perhaps the reader will be able to find for himself an answer to the question after reading the legend as Milton afterwards summarized it, following mainly on the lines of Geoffrey of Monmouth:—

"After this, Brutus in a chosen place builds Troia nova, chang'd in time to Trinovantum, now London: and began to enact Laws, Heli being then high priest in Judæe; and having govern'd the whole Ile 24 years, dy'd, and was buried in his new Troy. His three sons Loocrine, Albanact, and Camber divide the Land by consent. Loocrine had the middle part Loëgria; Camber possess'd Cambria or Wales; Albanact Albania, now Scotland. But he in the end by Humber King of the Hunns, who with a Fleet invaded that Land, was slain in fight, and his people driv'n back into Loëgria.

Loocrine and his Brother goe out against Humber; who, now marching onward, was by them defeated, and in a River drown'd, which to this day retains his name. Among the spoils of his Camp and Navy, were found certain young Maids, and Estrildis, above the rest, passing fair; the Daughter of a King in Germany; from whence Humber, as he went wasting the Sea-Coast, had led her Captive: whom Loocrine, though before contracted to the Daughter of Corineus, resolves to marry. But being forc'd and threatn'd by Corineus, whose Authority, and power he fear'd, Guendolen the Daughter he yelds to marry, but in secret loves the other: and oft-times retiring as to some privat Sacrifice, through Vaults and passages made under ground; and seven years thus enjoying her, had by her a Daughter equally fair, whose name was Sabra. But when once his fear was off by the Death of Corineus, not content with secret enjoyment, divorcing Guendolen, he makes Estrildis now his Queen. Guendolen all in rage departs into Cornwall; where Madan, the Son she had by Loocrine, was hitherto brought up by Corineus his Grandfather. And gathering an Army of her Fathers Freinds and Subjects, gives Battail to her Husband by the River Sture; wherein Loocrine shot with an Arrow ends his life. But not so ends the fury of Guendolen; for Estrildis and her Daughter Sabra, she throws into a River; and to leave a Monument of revenge, proclaims, that the stream be thereforth call'd after the Damsels name; which by length of time is chang'd now to Sabrina or Severn."

Now it will be seen that striking as is this story as it stands, it lacks not only many theatrical requisites, but many dramatic demands. It requires, in a word, that kind of recasting of plot which Shakspeare seemed always reluctant to undertake. Whether at work upon his favourite Holinshed, or upon a translation of an Italian story, or upon North's 'Plutarch,' or upon an old stock play, his method was to follow the mere incidents of his original as far as possible—though, of course, when he *did* depart from the lines of the original (as notably in the case of the death of Desdemona as narrated by Cinthio) it was to transfigure it entirely. In this as in so many other points his method was the very opposite of the method of him who is, perhaps, the greatest artistic genius that has lived since Shakspeare's time, Wagner. Whether this method of Shakspeare's came of instinct, or whether it was forced upon him by managerial conditions, is a question that might be variously answered. For it must never be forgotten that just as at the Dionysian festival it was to the dramatist as χοροδιδάσκαλος that the prize was awarded, even though the teacher of the chorus were Æschylus, so it was as successful caterer for the public that the more substantial, if less glorious prize was awarded to the joint manager of the Globe Theatre, even though the joint manager were Shakspeare. Therefore there may have been reasons quite as practical as artistic that compelled him to follow so closely on the legendary lines the audience were familiar with. However, when we recollect how he followed the story of Macbeth as he found it in Holinshed, and the story of Romeo and Juliet as he found it outside the full version of Luigi da Porto, it is impossible to imagine his recasting any dramatic material as Wagner manipulated the story of the Flying Dutchman or the story of the Niblungs. Yet only by such a thorough recasting from beginning to end as the story would have undergone in the hands of such a bold

manipulator as Wagner could the legend of 'Loocrine' have been utilized for drama. It is necessary to take this into the fullest consideration in criticizing the noble poem before us—a poem built upon the Elizabethan model entirely. This, indeed, is why we have here glanced at our previous remarks upon the old 'Loocrine' of 1595.

Of course in treating legendary material a dramatist has always the choice of two methods: either he may adopt what may be called the Shakspearean method of following the legend as closely as possible, or he may adopt what may be called the Wagnerian method of recasting with the utmost freedom and boldness the very mould of the story for artistic ends. But having selected his method the dramatist must keep to it. If he departs from the old course of the story at all he is bound to show good artistic cause for doing so. How does Mr. Swinburne's plan comport itself with regard to this inexorable law?

One great point of distinction between classic drama and romantic lies, of course, in the different quality of what (for want of a better phrase) we have called the tragic mischief. Where, as in Greek drama, the tragic mischief is always fate, the dramatic logic of the poet need not be so severe as to the sequence of secondary cause and effect in regard to the evil forces at work and the evil done. It was not, for instance, incumbent on Æschylus to show whether Clytemnestra was impelled to assassinate her husband by her sorrow for the death of Iphigenia, or by her own jealousy of Cassandra, or by dread of the consequences of her adulterous life with Ægisthus, or from a mingling of all these impulses. For the impulse to commit the crime came from a deeper and an older tragic mischief still—the impulse of the doom on the house of Atreus, whether that doom sprang from the human curse of Thyestes, or from that awful quality which, according to the Æschylean cosmogony, slumbers, but does not sleep, in every human act, like the Karma of the Hindoos, and like the "Romany-Sap" or bosom-snake of the gipsies. But in romantic drama, where the dramatic action does not revolve around any pivot of doom or Karma, dramatic logic is strongly demanded—nay, it is essential to vital drama—and upon the nature of the tragic mischief selected very much depends. Nor is this all. When the tragic mischief has been once selected, this alone must move the action towards the end. The rule is not arbitrary, it is based on the nature of the human mind—on the nature of that human imagination upon which it is the artist's function to play. Even in prose fiction it is a rule that can never be violated without peril, and in the greatest tragic masterpieces, such as 'The Bride of Lammermoor' and 'The Scarlet Letter,' it is followed as implicitly as in 'Macbeth' and 'Othello.' But, of course, the economic laws of art are far more exigent in drama.

In no play with which we are acquainted is the tragic mischief unfolded so early and unfolded so clearly as in Mr. Swinburne's 'Loocrine.' In the opening lines of the first scene Guendolen discloses her knowledge of her husband's infidelity—discloses the working of the passion which is to turn her love to hate:—

GUEN. Nay—rather seems Locrine  
Thy sire than I thy mother.  
MADAN. Wherefore? Boy,  
GUEN. Because of all our sires who fought for Troy  
Most like thy father and my lord Locrine,  
I think, was Paris.  
MAD. How may man divine  
Thy meaning? Blunt am I, thou knowest, of wit;  
And scarce yet man—men tell me.  
GUEN. Ask not it.  
I meant not thou shouldst understand—I spake  
As one that sighs, to ease her heart of ache,  
And would not clothe in words her cause for sighs—  
Her naked cause of sorrow.  
MAD. Wert thou wise,  
Mother, thy tongue had chosen of two things one—  
Silence or speech.  
GUEN. Speech had I chosen, my son,  
I had wronged thee—yea, perchance I have wronged  
thine ears  
Too far, to say so much.  
MAD. Nay, these are tears  
That gather toward thine eyelids now.

Nothing can be more skilful than this. The  
poisonous flower is seen in blossom: we  
know the poisonous fruit into which it  
will ripen. We think we are going to  
get for once a tragedy without the machi-  
nations of a stage plotter and villain.  
But for some inexplicable reason—perhaps  
because Mr. Swinburne has not yet out-  
grown the superstition that the number of  
acts in a play should be governed by some-  
thing other than the inexorable demands of  
the subject—Mr. Swinburne introduces the  
machinations of Camber, who sets to work  
to do the very mischief that is already done,  
and occupies an entire act of the tragedy.  
So important a part does he play in the first  
act that the reader feels that some important  
function in the drama he must fulfil, and  
fully expects his return in the sequel. But  
what he does is to retire to Wales and never  
appear again.

The fourth act is, however, inexpressibly  
fine both as drama and as poetry. Our  
quotation, long as it is, seems to do but  
scant justice to the act:—

GUEN. Thou knowest? but this thou knowest  
not, king,  
How near of kin are bitter love and hate—  
Nor which of these may be the deadlier thing.

LOC. What wouldst thou?  
GUEN. Death. Would God my heart were great!  
Then would I slay myself.

LOC. I dare not fear  
That heaven hath marked for thee no fairer fate.

GUEN. Ay! wilt thou slay me then—and slay me  
here?

LOC. Mock not thy wrath and me. No hair of  
thine

Would I—thou knowest it—hurt; nor vex thine ear  
With answering wrath more vain than fumes of  
wine.

I have wronged and yet not wronged thee. Whence  
or when

Strange whispers rose that turned thy heart from  
mine

I would not know for shame's sake, Guendolen,  
And honour's that I bear thee.

GUEN. Didst thou deem  
I would outlive with thee the scorn of men,  
A slave enthroned beside a traitor? Seem  
These eyes and lips and hands of mine a slave's  
Uplift for mercy toward thee? Such a dream  
Sets realms on fire, and turns their fields to graves.

LOC. No dream is mine that does thee less than  
right:

Albeit thy words be wild as warring waves,  
I know thee higher of heart than shame could  
smite

And queenlier than thy queenship.

GUEN. Dost thou know  
What day records to day and night to night—  
How he whose wrath was rained as hail or snow  
On Troy's adulterous towers, when treacherous  
flame

Devoured them, and our fathers' roofs lay low,  
And all their praise was turned to fire and shame—  
All-righteous God, who herds the stars of heaven  
As sheep within his sheepfold—God, whose name  
Compels the wandering clouds to service, given  
As surely as even the sun's is—loves or hates  
Treason? He loved our sires: were they forgiven?  
Their walls upreared of gods, their sevenfold  
gates,

Might these keep out his justice? What art thou  
To make thy will more strong and sure than fate's?  
Thy fate am I, that falls upon thee now.  
Wilt thou not slay me yet—and slay thy son?  
So shall thy fate change, and unbend the brow  
That now looks mortal on thee.

LOC. What is done  
Lies now past help or pleading: nor would I  
Plead with thee, knowing that love henceforth is  
none

Nor trust between us till the day we die.  
Yet, if thy name be woman,—if thine heart  
Be not burnt up with fire of hell, and lie  
Not wounded even to death,—albeit we part,  
Let there not be between us war, but peace,  
Though love may be not.

GUEN. Peace? The man thou art  
Craves—and shame bids not breath within him  
cease—

Craves of the woman that thou knowest I am  
Peace? Ay, take hands at parting, and release  
Each heart, each hand, each other: shall the lamb,  
The lamb-like woman, born to cower and bleed,  
Withstand his will whose choice may save or damn  
Her days and nights, her word and thought and  
deed—

Take heart to outdare her lord the lion? How  
Should this be—if the lion's imperial seed  
Lift not against his sire as brave a brow  
As frowns upon his mother?—Peace be then  
Between us: none may stand before thee now:  
No son of thine keep faith with Guendolen.

MAD. I have held my peace perforce, it seems,  
too long,

Being slower of speech than sons of meaner men.  
But seeing my sire hath done my mother wrong,  
My hand is hers to serve against my sire.

GUEN. And God shall make thine hand against  
him strong.

LOC. Ay: when the hearthstead flames, the roof  
takes fire.

GUEN. Woe worth his hand who set the hearth  
on flame!

LOC. Curse not our fathers; though thy fierce  
desire

Drive thine own son against his father, shame  
Should rein thy tongue from speech too shameless.

GUEN. Ay!

And thou, my holy-hearted lord,—the same  
Whose hand was laid in mine and bound to lie  
There fast for ever if faith be found on earth—  
If truth be true, and shame not wholly die—

Hast thou not made thy mockery and thy mirth,  
Thy laughter and thy scorn, of shame? But we,  
Thy wife by wedlock, and thy son by birth,  
Who have no part in spirit and soul with thee,  
Will bear no part in kingdom nor in life

With one who hath put to shame his child and me.  
Thy true-born son, and I that was thy wife,  
Will see thee dead or perish. Call thy men  
About thee; bid them gird their loins for strife

More dire than theirs who storm the wild wolf's  
den;

For if thou dare not slay us here to-day  
Thou art dead.

LOC. Thou knowest I dare not, Guendolen,  
Dare what the ravenous beasts whose life is prey  
Dream not of doing, though drunk with bloodshed.

GUEN. No:

Thou art gentle, and beasts are honest: no such  
way

Lies open toward thy fearful foot: not so  
Shalt thou find surety from these foes of thine.  
Woe worth thee therefore! yea, a sevenfold woe  
Shall God through us rain down on thee, Locrine.

Hadst thou the heart God hath not given thee—  
then

Our blood might run before thy feet like wine  
And wash thy way toward sin in sight of men  
Smooth, soft, and safe. But if thou shed it not—  
If Madan live to look on Guendolen

Living—I wot not what shall be—I wot  
What shall not—thou shalt have no joy to live  
More than have they for whom God's wrath grows  
hot.

LOC. God's grace is no such gift as thou canst  
give,

Queen, or withhold. Farewell.

GUEN. I dare not say

Farewell.

LOC. And why?

GUEN. Thou hast not said—Forgive.

LOC. I say it—I have said. Thou wilt not hear  
me?

GUEN. Nay. [Exeunt.

We are half ashamed of suggesting the  
deficiency from the theatrical point of view  
of a play full of such noble writing as this,  
yet there can be no doubt that the oppor-  
tunity which Mr. Swinburne passed by of  
bringing together in the last act Guen-  
dolen miserable in her triumph, Locrine,  
Estrild, and Sabrina was a great one, and  
that he who could draw such a character as  
Guendolen would have used it greatly.  
Such a tableau does not often offer itself,  
and (notwithstanding our dislike of the  
mechanical situations of the contemporary  
stage) we wonder that Mr. Swinburne could  
have been content to forego it.

The play is, as will be seen, written in  
decasyllabic rhymes; but inasmuch as the  
rhymes are arranged in every possible way  
—arranged so that we get dialogue written  
not only in the Drydenic couplet, but in the  
sonnet form (both English and Italian), in  
*ottava rima*, in "rhythm royal," in *terza  
rima*, and even in the nine-line stanza which  
Chaucer uses in one poem only—the play  
must be judged without the aid of any  
standard of comparison, for it stands alone  
in dramatic literature. It is singular that  
he who has shown himself such a master  
of dramatic blank verse—he whose admira-  
tion of Marlowe is not very far "this  
side idolatry"—should be the poet to  
attempt in our time to revive the very  
artistic quality which Marlowe's influence  
swept out of the Elizabethan drama.

We have often in these columns asked the  
questions, Had it not been for the influence  
of Marlowe's methods upon Shakespeare and  
others, what would have been the result of  
the struggle between dramatic blank verse  
and rhyme? and could rhymed tragedy  
have ever been vital in a literature such as  
ours? For one of the most noticeable points  
of difference between these two supreme  
poets is this—that while Marlowe in drama  
shrank instinctively from the disturbing  
suggestiveness of rhyme, and tried from the  
very first to escape it, Shakespeare deli-  
ghted in rhyme, and only yielded to Mar-  
lowe's example and influence slowly and  
apparently with reluctance. Not that rhyme  
was in any way a fetter to Marlowe's  
genius. If it may be said, as we think  
it may, that English poets are divisible  
into two classes—those to whom rhyme  
is a fetter and those to whom rhyme is  
an impulse—'Hero and Leander' shows  
that to the latter class Marlowe belongs as  
unquestionably as do Coleridge and Keats.  
But Marlowe probably felt that the require-  
ments of drama are far from being identical  
with the requirements of narrative art. He  
felt that inasmuch as drama gets closer to  
life than does the lofty dream of epic, or,  
indeed, any other form of objective poetry, it  
must be rendered in a form where the sponta-  
neous suggestions that come to the dramatic  
temper when at work may move as untram-  
melled as possible by those disturbing sug-  
gestions of rhythmic structure which are so



clamorous in rhyme. No doubt 'Hero and Leander' itself shows how dramatic and how vital may be dialogue in rhyme; and no doubt the dramatic ballads of the Border—some of them worked out from beginning to end in dialogue—live by what can only be called the dramatic method, that is to say, the method where the dialogue has that quality of suggestiveness and subtle inference which is the one indispensable quality of purely dramatic dialogue. But this seems to be no proof that rhymed measures are proper for tragedy. A good instance of what we mean is afforded by one of Mr. Swinburne's own rhymed poems, 'Tristram of Lyonesse,' where the dramatic method of soliloquy and suggestive subtlety of dialogue are more liberally imported into a narrative poem than had ever been seen before. The passion of Iseult is not really more powerfully rendered than is the passion of Guendolen in the play before us; and yet, perhaps, it seems to be more powerfully rendered. Why, then, did Marlowe, who very likely had all Mr. Swinburne's power of producing vital dialogue in rhyme, abandon rhyme in tragedy? We think it was because he felt that the spectator of a play is in a very different mood from the reader of a narrative poem. Drama, as we have said above, aspires to get closer to life than does any kind of narrative art, and hence the signs of the formative hand must be kept behind. Narrative art does not, and need not, concern itself very greatly about securing that full and perfect illusion which drama must always secure. Perhaps, indeed, one reason of the birth and growth of prose fiction in modern Europe is this, that while it is in the nature of drama to become more and more realistic, it is in the nature of narrative poetry to become less and less so, the 'Prometheus' being followed by 'Alcestis,' the 'Iliad' being followed by 'Paradise Lost.' This, however, is beside the mark. Those who, at the revival of 'Le Roi s'Amuse' at the Théâtre Français, heard how carefully Got hid away the rhymes, exercising more and more care as the scene became more and more impassioned, will realize how great an infirmity is rhyme in tragedy even where the dramatist, as in Hugo's case, has no middle vehicle between rhyme and prose.

That, under such artistic restrictions as he has chosen for himself, Mr. Swinburne should have produced a poem so full of dramatic life as 'Loerine' is really wonderful. Guendolen is one of the strongest characters in nineteenth century drama. In her we get not so much love turned to hate as love at war with hate—a much more subtle conception. Loerine, too, is a living man, and Sabrina is exceedingly winsome. Altogether the book must add to Mr. Swinburne's reputation. Of beauties of a purely poetic kind the play is more full than anything Mr. Swinburne has before given to the public in dramatic form. And never before did he write more lovely verses than those in which the play is dedicated to his sister:—

## I.

The love that comes and goes like wind or fire  
Hath words and wings wherewith to speak and flee

But love more deep than passion's deep desire,  
Clear and inviolable as the unsounded sea,  
What wings of words may serve to set it free,

To lift and lead it homeward? Time and death  
Are less than love: or man's live spirit saith  
False, when he deems his life is more than breath.

## II.

No words may utter love; no sovereign song  
Speak all it would for love's sake. Yet would I  
Fain cast in moulded rhymes that do me wrong  
Some little part of all my love: but why  
Should weak and wingless words be fain to fly?  
For us the years that live not are not dead:  
Past days and present in our hearts are wed:  
My song can say no more than love hath said.

## III.

Love needs nor song nor speech to say what love  
Would speak or sing, were speech and song not weak  
To bear the sense-belated soul above  
And bid the lips of silence breathe and speak.  
Nor power nor will has love to find or seek  
Words indiscoverable, ampler strains of song  
Than ever hailed him fair or showed him strong:  
And less than these should do him worse than wrong.

## IV.

We who remember not a day wherein  
We have not loved each other,—who can see  
No time, since life bade first our days begin,  
Within the sweep of memory's wings, when we  
Have known not what each other's love must be,—  
We are well content to know it, and rest on this,  
And call not words to witness that it is.  
To love aloud is oft to love amiss.

## NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*The Wrong Road by Hook or Crook.* By Major Arthur Griffiths. 3 vols. (Blackwood & Sons.)

*For God and Gold.* By Julian Corbett. (Macmillan & Co.)

*Caught by the Tide.* By Alison L. Garland. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

*Castle Heather.* By Lady William Lennox. (Same publishers.)

*The Feud of Oakfield Creek.* By Josiah Royce. (Boston, U.S., Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

*Environment.* By Florine Thayer McCray. (New York, Funk & Wagnalls.)

If Major Griffiths intends his readers to understand that his villain-in-chief is unalterably bent on taking the wrong road through life by hook or crook, his title is certainly appropriate. A wicked woman than Mrs. Leleu was never concocted by novelist. She plays the leading part in an exciting and rattling story, and under Major Griffiths's guidance moves most of the machinery by which the other puppets are set and kept in motion. There is a constant change of scene and incident, a murder, a detective, a trial or two, an acquittal and a conviction, a fire, rightful and wrongful heirs, wills and confessions; in short, nearly all the devices which writers of novels find generally serviceable. Some of the characters are not particularly life-like; but Col. St. Evelyn and his wife and General Wyndham-Parker are good enough to bear comparison with men and women whom one knows. However, the matter of the story will probably leave the reader with little inclination to criticize its manner.

No one could have written such a book as 'For God and Gold' without saturating himself in the literature of the spacious times therein depicted. Yet so unstrained and easy is the archaic style in which Mr. Corbett has cast his narrative that the sense of artificiality usually present during the perusal of historical romances is seldom aroused in his pages. But while in 'The Fall of Asgard' Mr. Corbett had a comparatively untrodden field—that of Scandinavian

mediaevalism—on Elizabethan ground, and in particular that portion he has chosen, he at once challenges comparison with formidable rivals. Such comparisons, however, it would be unprofitable and unnecessary to institute. Mr. Corbett has not superseded 'Westward Ho!' yet he has produced a fresh and vivid romance, in which the conflicting tendencies of the early Elizabethan epoch—euphuistic, ascetic, and adventurous—are happily and often divertingly contrasted. Readers of 'The Fall of Asgard' will remember that there was no love-making in that romance, and here, too, the subject is only tentatively handled, though Jasper Festing, the sailor-scholar, has a genius for misplaced attachments. In this connexion, moreover, it is curious to note how sparing Mr. Corbett is in the introduction of female characters, of whom there are only two in the book who are at all prominent. Where, however, the results produced are eminently satisfactory, it would be ungrateful to quarrel with the author for such economy. Perhaps the most successful portrait in the book is that of old Sergeant Culverin, an entirely humorous personage, whose inordinate esteem for horsemanship is illustrated in a score of amusing ways.

Plenty of incident and a refreshing simplicity of style compensate for the weak construction of Miss Garland's story, which is not likely to shock the most delicately nurtured taste. The hero who narrates his adventures is a fairly good young man, who turns out to be heir to a large estate, though for some time he thinks that a certain bad young man has a better title to it. Many of the actions of Miss Garland's characters are very irregular indeed—as one of them plainly proves out of the Bible, and as any reader of ordinary intelligence will be able to see for himself. Good deeds, however, predominate, and the evil deeds are not of the kind which proverbially bring a blush to the cheeks of the ingenious.

Lady William Lennox tells the old story of parental folly, not to say heartless indifference, which throws together young and old of both sexes, the inexperienced and the case-hardened, as though nothing but good could come of the association. In 'Castle Heather' the consequences are bad enough, though not quite so bad as they might have been. There is nothing new in the plot or characters; but the trivial circumstances are dressed up in a fairly attractive fashion, and the tale is readable enough. Lady William Lennox is fond of such words as *kudos*, *kismet*, and the like, and indulges in bits of colloquial French and more than an average allowance of italics—trifling blemishes which make her style appear weaker than it actually is. 'Castle Heather' is by no means dry reading.

Two very characteristic and very different American novels may be noticed together. 'The Feud of Oakfield Creek,' which not inappropriately comes from Boston, is well written in pure English, and much labour is bestowed in forcing upon the reader an exact understanding of the circumstances in which the characters are introduced, and of the mental, moral, and social problems in which they are involved. The action is of no great importance, and the incidents, though they include a wild fight, are told with precision, but without

keen relish. The story shows no constructive ability, and the author's good literary taste is still not brilliant enough to relieve his book from dullness.

'Environment,' which comes from New York, is brimful of vulgarity of the kind that may properly be called genteel. But it has some merit, for the author has got hold of an idea for a plot, which is not badly developed, though it would have been more effective if it had been made the main theme instead of a subsidiary incident. There is a lady who had married without telling her husband that she had once been given to drink. She is a lady of the highest dignity and refinement, according to the author's lights, and her gradual giving way to her old failing is rather cleverly worked out. The author's limitation is indicated by the view she expresses of New York business men: "There are no such distinguished men in the world." The type is thus described: "He was a man of most graceful and elegant appearance, the keeping of his person, from the iron-gray hair that clustered about a fine head to the tips of his pink fingers and the toes of his perfect boots, amounting to fastidiousness." One of the ladies, a teacher in the public school, "who was boarding upon Elm Street for the summer," seems to have been no less distinguished. "She could not have said, 'Did Jew?' nor 'Don' chew?' nor 'fuchure,' nor 'picture.' Equally impossible to her tongue would have been 'furni-ture' or 'over-ture.' Every word fell clean cut from her lips"; but how she did pronounce those words is not explained. The author herself knows some fine expressions. "Is it not," she asks, "your college athlete who is the darling of girlish hearts, rather than the *sui-generis* valedictorian of his class?" Ruffled by a piece of impertinence which ought not to have been possible in a lady's drawing-room, even in ultra-genteel society, a young gentleman gave "a slight cigarette cough." The book affords a certain kind of amusement; but the reader will agree with the view evidently taken by the publishers, who have had the second half printed in small type.

#### CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

- Brian Fitz-Count.* By the Rev. A. D. Crake. (Rivingtons.)  
*City Snowdrops; or, the House of Flowers.* By M. E. Winchester. (Shaw & Co.)  
*The Shepherd's Darling.* By Brenda. (Same publishers.)  
*In Convent Walls: the Story of the Dispensers.* By Emily Sarah Holt. (Same publishers.)  
*On the Banks of the Ouse.* By Mrs. Marshall. (Seeley & Co.)  
*A Garland for Girls.* By Louisa M. Alcott. (Blackie & Son.)  
*Historic Girls.* By E. S. Brooks. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)  
*Home Again.* By George Mac Donald. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)  
*Two and Two; or, French and English.* By the Author of 'Dethroned.' (Griffith & Farran.)  
*Mademoiselle's Story.* By Mrs. Ryffel. (Same publishers.)  
*Very Short Stories in Very Short Words.* By the Hon. Emmeline M. Plunket. (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.)  
*Wishes on Wings: a Roundabout Story.* By F. S. D. Ames. (Burns & Oates.)  
*Crookleigh: a Village Story.* By Silas K. Hocking. (Warne & Co.)

*The Life and Adventures of a Very Little Monkey, and other Tales.* By the Author of 'Moravian Life in the Black Forest.' (Sonnenschein & Co.)

*Stories of the Conquests of Mexico and Peru.* By William Dalton. (Paterson.)

*The Discoveries of Columbus and of the English in America.* By H. P. Dunster. (Same publisher.)

*Durscombe Hall.* By Marian Nesbitt. (Dublin, Gill & Son.)

MR. CRAKE "has accomplished a desire of many years in writing a story of Wallingford Castle and Dorchester Abbey." Whether he has also succeeded in producing a faithful picture of the times of which his story is told, is more than doubtful. Readers are more exacting in these matters than they were, and after the books of Prof. Church they are quick to detect the "modern antique." Mr. Crake has assailed in the reign of Stephen a period more difficult, because better known, than that of his 'Escadune' chronicles. He is singularly unlucky in selecting for his type of the savage Norman baron Brian Fitz-Count of Wallingford, who composed, he will clearly be surprised to learn, a treatise in support of the claim of the Empress, and of whom we know no evil. As Mr. Crake strives to make his story stirring, he might have followed his hero to the siege of Winchester, and have told the tale of the ride of the Empress, instead of skipping the three most eventful years in Brian's life. If the book is meant for young people, it is a pity that the hideous phenomena of leprosy are so prominently introduced. The tale of Brian's leper sons rests at best on doubtful authority, and if they were indeed shut up it was not at Byfield, but at Abergavenny. With longer and more careful study of his theme Mr. Crake would have done much better.

In 'City Snowdrops; or, the House of Flowers,' we have a pathetic tale of mission work in the slums of a great city. The city snowdrops are forlorn and homeless little waifs, who are gathered into the house of flowers by a kindly old negress with a strange and romantic history. 'The Shepherd's Darling,' reprinted from the *Sunday Magazine*, is one of Brenda's best works. It is a tale of temptation and sorrow told with the author's well-known power. Bonnie, the unhappy little heroine, is tempted to run away from her home, and is only restored after much wandering and tribulation. The scene of her encounter with Stamboul, the enraged bear, is thrilling.

Miss Holt is evidently fond of writing tales of the olden time, and she has certainly studied with diligence the history of the fourteenth century; but we must confess that we find 'In Convent Walls' exceedingly dull. The genealogy is even more intricate and bewildering than in Miss Yonge's tales of to-day, the relationship between the various characters is insisted upon in great detail, and the whole rambling chronicle is written in language so archaic and so stilted that it takes some time to arrive at the author's meaning.

Mrs. Marshall has produced in 'On the Banks of the Ouse' a pleasantly written study of life at Olney in the days of Cowper and his friend John Newton.

Miss Louisa M. Alcott's stories always find many readers. 'A Garland for Girls' is a collection of short stories, slight in plot, but as attractive in style as was to be expected from the author of 'Little Women.'

'Historic Girls,' reprinted from *St. Nicholas*, is the mate to 'Historic Boys,' and tells in stirring style the story of "girls who by eminent position or valiant deeds became historic even before they had passed the charming season of girlhood."

It is a pity that Dr. George Mac Donald has written 'Home Again.' It is an unpleasant story of a kind of prodigal son who is ensnared

by an aristocratic enchantress, Lady Lufa the soulless. Of course in the end Walter Colman breaks his bonds and returns to his father and his true love. Lady Lufa seems to be a most objectionable young person.

'Two and Two' is a capital child's story of harmless and amusing pranks on both sides of the Channel.

'Mademoiselle's Story' is a shapeless kind of book. It is a study of English life from the point of view of a foreign governess, and abounds in dull detail.

'Very Short Stories,' a book for the nursery, is really too babyish. The author has sacrificed everything to the fetish of the monosyllable. The illustrations are by T. Pym, and are charming.

'Wishes on Wings' is a fantastic story for Catholics only. It is exceedingly dull.

There is not much to be said for 'Crookleigh.' It seems to be intended as a study of Disentangling life in the provinces. The story is badly contrived and full of wild improbabilities, and there is nothing in the manner to atone for the matter.

Mrs. Batt's "true stories of the Monkey, the Birds, the Oysters, and the Insects" make up quite a fascinating volume of animal lore. We heartily commend it to young folk for Christmas reading.

There is nothing on the title-page of Mr. Dalton's book to show that it is a reissue of a volume published fifteen years ago. It is a pity that Mr. Paterson has signalized his advent in London by resorting to a practice which all publishers should abandon. The book is well suited for boys, and needed not to appear under false colours.

Mr. Dunster is a veteran caterer for boys, but whether his volume is another specimen of Mr. Blackwood's old stock we do not know.

'Durscombe Hall' is a nice story for girls. Boys will scarcely care for it.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

We have never been able to share the extravagant estimate of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's powers which has been formed in some quarters, and we have said that Mr. Stevenson himself must have felt embarrassed by unmeasured eulogy. His volume of collected magazine articles and others, called *Memories and Portraits* (Chatto & Windus), shows for once a desire to offer himself to the world in general at the price put upon him by the select circle of his most enthusiastic admirers. The title of the book claims too much, and the preface, which peremptorily bids one to read the papers through from the beginning rather than to dip into them at random, is not an agreeable introduction. The papers, it is asserted, form something like an autobiography, and enable the reader to trace through the grandfather and the father the person designated by an unfortunate phrase as "the person of to-day." The question, which would not otherwise have arisen, is therefore forced upon one whether Mr. Stevenson has yet achieved a position which makes it fitting for him to present his autobiography to the world. He has written two admirable boys' books, one of the best of shilling dreadfuls, and a number of other works which have been extremely successful, and he has been much "interviewed" in America; but he is still a young man, and it is sincerely hoped he has a brilliant future before him. Is he yet entitled to issue his magazine articles with such a flourish? In truth, after going through them from the beginning an impartial reader cannot find it possible to admit that they at all bear out the character claimed for them. About half of them deal with Scotch life and manners; but the rest are as diverse as any other chance collection—'Talk and Talkers,' 'The Character of Dogs,' 'A Gossip on a Novel of Dumas's,' and 'A Gossip about Romance' being among the titles. It is difficult to discover what quality should give them a permanent interest. Speaking of them as a whole, they have an air of seriousness, and even of sadness, lightened here



and there by humorous touches, but wanting that vivacity and that restrained irony which mark the best of Mr. Stevenson's work. The form in which they are cast, suitable enough no doubt to their original purpose, gives them an appearance of egotism, a little fault from which Mr. Stevenson has been otherwise entirely free hitherto. The matters dealt with in the book being so various, it is impossible to criticize it in detail. The chapters on novel-writing are, for the moment, the most inviting; but the fact that they are in substance answers to Mr. Besant, Mr. Henry James, and Mr. Howells only shows that they are ephemeral. They are, indeed, excellently written, with great beauty of style and with the vigour of a strong conviction; but they are neither simple enough nor sufficiently close in argument to be convincing to others. When Mr. Stevenson comes to sum up the whole matter by laying down his advice to young novelists, it is obvious that an accomplished artist is not always the best person to teach the rudiments. He knows, indeed, what is the effect to be aimed at. Let the young writer

"choose a motive, whether of character or passion; carefully construct his plot so that every incident is an illustration of the motive, and every property employed shall bear to it a near relation of congruity or contrast;.....suffer not his style to flag below the level of the argument;.....and allow neither himself in the narrative nor any character in the course of the dialogue to utter one sentence that is not part and parcel of the business of the story or the discussion of the problem involved."

What will the young writer learn from this? And, as the article from which it is taken is mainly an answer to Mr. James, what will the older writer find in it to dispute?

UNDER the title of *Centennial Biographic Sketch of Charles Cowden-Clarke by Her whom he made his Second Self*, Mrs. Charles Cowden Clarke has printed in an agreeable brochure an account of the life of her late husband, the friend and mentor of the poet Keats. Why Cowden-Clarke with a posthumous hyphen? For something like half a century we have been accustomed to "Charles and Mary Cowden Clarke," and to the knowledge that Charles was the son of plain Mr. Clarke; and it is highly curious at this time of day to find him behyphened not only in a title-page, but throughout the text, notes, and advertisements of a pamphlet, and even in representations of his own signature, which we know to have been free from this latter-day affectation.

Norard of the *Dogger* (Nisbet & Co.) is an account by Mr. E. J. Mather of the Mission to Deep-Sea Fishermen, which he began about five years ago, as it would seem (for Mr. Mather is hazy about dates), and has since carried on at considerable personal sacrifice. The object of the mission is not only to preach to the smacksmen and to distribute tracts and Testaments, but also to provide medical assistance, and by selling cheap tobacco to put an end to the "copers," which do much harm in the North Sea. Mr. Mather writes in a plain, straightforward way, which convinces his readers of his sincerity, but he lacks the power of arranging his facts properly.

DR. BIRKBECK HILL has produced a selection of Johnsoniana under the title of *Wit and Wisdom of Samuel Johnson*, and prefaced it by a pleasant introduction. The volume has been brought out in tasteful style by the Clarendon Press.

We have received from Messrs. Effingham Wilson & Co. a *Report on the Revenues ceded by Turkey to the Bondholders of the Ottoman Public Debt, showing the Results obtained during the First Quinquennial Period (1882-7)*, by Mr. Vincent Caillard, whose report on the present year of his own presidency we noticed last week. The pamphlet now before us is ably written and deals with subjects of much interest, as, for example, the respective advantages of employment in the East of native or of European agents, the

foreign trade of Turkey, the credit system in Oriental countries, the railway question, the wine trade and phylloxera, and the political question of the Eastern Roumelian tribute, as regards which the English representative has had a great and somewhat unexpected success.

*Whitaker's Almanack* (Whitaker) has that look of prosperity that comes with success. It has, indeed, attained a position when criticism is pretty well superfluous. It has become a cyclopædia which has not its like at the price.

*The Live Stock Journal Almanac* (Vinton & Co.) contains a number of interesting articles as well as a directory of breeders and other useful information.—Mr. Pratt, of Sudbury, continues to bring out *Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book*, with its usual complement of illustrations, tales, and poetry. The frontispiece is, as it should be, a scene in the neighbourhood of Sudbury.

MESSRS. GRIFFITH & FARRAN send us a few of Pettitt's excellent *Diaries* and also *Pettitt's Library Almanac*, which is clear and neat. They further forward some of *Blackwood's Pocket-Books and Diaries*.

We have received the new issue of the *Almanach de Gotha* (for 1888), containing the usual information up to July last. The volume presents no special features of interest, and is issued, as always, by Justus Perthes, of Gotha.

WE have on our table *A Skeleton Outline of the History of England for Beginners*, by A. H. Dyke Acland and C. Ransome (Rivingtons);—*The History of Civilization in Scotland*, by J. Mackintosh, Vol. IV. (Aberdeen, Brown & Co.);—*Six Months in Hejaz*, by J. F. Keane (Ward & Downey);—*The Making of the Great West, 1512-1883*, by S. A. Drake (Fisher Unwin);—*Sketches in History and Poetry*, by the late J. C. Shairp, LL.D., edited by J. Veitch (Edinburgh, Douglas);—*A Treatise on Syriac Grammar*, edited by R. J. H. Gottheil (Trübner);—*Sound, Light, and Heat*, by M. R. Wright (Longmans);—*Solutions of Algebraical Exercises*, by Rev. W. Failes (Macmillan);—*Manual of Sonography*; or, the *Longhand-Shorthand*, by the Rev. D. S. Davies (Griffith & Farran);—*Totemism*, by J. G. Frazer (Edinburgh, Black);—*The Boy Travellers on the Congo*, by T. W. Knox (Low);—*Propsy*, by J. B. Douglas (L.L.S.);—*Squire of Calder*, by H. Francis (L.L.S.);—*Rosamond, a Series of Tales*, by M. Edgeworth (Routledge);—*Picture Scraps and Rhymes* (Dean & Son);—*Children's Chums*, by F. M. Gallaher (Spencer Blackett);—*The Children's Gallery Series*, I. to IV. (Griffith & Farran);—*Sunbeam Stories in Prose and Verse* (Routledge);—*The Old Woman and her Pig*, illustrated by E. A. Mason (Clarke);—*Bubbles*, by A. M. Lockyer (Marcus Ward);—*Joyful Days*, by Mercie Sunshine (Ward & Lock);—*Holiday Stories in Prose and Verse* (Routledge);—*The Little One's Own Companion*, edited by Mrs. E. Day (Dean & Son);—*Dame Wiggins of Lee and her Seven Wonderful Cats* (Field & Tuer);—*Streamlets of Song for the Young*, by F. R. Havergal (Nisbet);—*The Characters in Hamlet*, by W. Weeks (Murby);—*The Church Sunday School Magazine*, Vol. XXIII. (C.E.S.S.I.);—and the *Boy's and Girl's Companion*, Volume 1887 (C.E.S.S.I.).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## ENGLISH.

## Theology.

- Bibber's (T. E. van) *The Holy Child, or the Flight into Egypt*, roy. 16mo. 6/1 cl.  
Brett (Rev. W. H.), *Memoir of "The Apostle of the Indians of Guiana"*, by Rev. F. P. L. Josa, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.  
Bunyan's (J.) *Grace Abounding*, edited with Introduction, Notes, &c., by Rev. J. Brown, cr. 8vo. 5/1 cl.  
Dods's (Rev. M.) *The Book of Genesis*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Jelf's (G. E.) *Work and Worship*, Sermons, 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Jordan's (L. H.) *Pastor's Diary and Clerical Record*, 12mo. 2/1 cl.  
New *Outlines of Sermons on Old Testament*, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.  
Old Letters, a Layman's Thoughts on Current Religious Topics, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Ryle's (Rev. J. C.) *The Upper Room*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Stevenson's (Rev. W. F.) *Dawn of the Modern Mission*, 2/6 cl.  
Walah's (A. S.) *Mary, the Queen of the House of David*, 3/6 cl.

## Fine Art.

Day's (L. F.) *Text-Book of Ornamental Design*, No. 2, 3/6 cl.  
Lee's (A.) *Marble and Marble Workers, a Handbook for Architects*, &c., 12mo. 2/1 cl.

## Poetry.

Book of British Ballads, ed. by B. C. Hall, 16mo. 5/1 cl.  
Homer's *Odyssey* done into English Verse, by W. Morris, 6/6 cl.  
Lays of the Seaside, by A. Cheem, cr. 8vo. 5/1 cl.  
Thring's (E.) *Poems and Translations*, 12mo. 3/1 cl.  
Thring's (E.) *Uppingham School Songs and North Lyrics*, 2/1 cl.

## History and Biography.

Ashton's (J.) *The Fleet, its River, Prison, and Marriages*, 21/1 cl. (Victor), by J. Simon, trans. by G. Masson, 8vo. 2/6 cl. (Great French Writers).  
Kingsford's (W.) *History of Canada*, Vol. 1, 8vo. 15/1 cl.  
Layard's (Sir H.) *Early Adventures in Persia, Susiana, and Babylonia*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 24/1 cl.  
Rogers's (W. H. H.) *Memorials of the West*, 8vo. 21/1 h.f. mor.  
Washington's (G.) *Life Studied Anew*, by E. E. Hale, 6/1 cl.

## Philology.

Balzac's (H. de) *Eugénie Grandet*, ed. by G. Pettitau, 2/1 cl.  
Becker's *Friedrich der Grosse*, 12mo. 3/6 cl. (Buchheim's German Classics, Vol. 9.)  
Beljame (A.) and Bossert's (A.) *Common French Words Rationally Grouped*, cr. 8vo. 2/1 cl.

## Science.

Capel's (Rev. A. D.) *Pupil Teacher's Handbook of Arithmetic*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Hughes's (H.) *Geography for Schools*, Part 1, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Roscoe and Schorlemmer's *Treatise on Chemistry*, Vol. 3, Part 4, 8vo. 21/1 cl.

## General Literature.

Argyll's (Duke of) *The New British Constitution and its Master Builders*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Child Elves, a Fairy Tale founded on Facts, by W. L., 7/6 cl.  
Curse of the Ferrills, by Sylvia Penn, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
Gonzalez's (D. M. F. Y.) *Hermesenda, or Bishop, Husband, and King*, translated by J. R. and J. A. G., cr. 8vo. 5/1 cl.  
Graphic (The) *Complete Guide to the Queen's Scholarship Examination*, cr. 8vo. 4/1 cl.  
Munroe's (K.) *The Flamingo Feather*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.  
My Holiday Picture-Book, imp. 16mo. 2/6 cl.  
Palmer's (Lady S.) *Mrs. Penicott's Lodgers, and other Stories*, 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Parish Guide (The), edited by Rev. T. Johnson, 8vo. 6/1 cl.  
Prentiss's (E.) *Stepping Heavenward*, illus. edit. 8vo. 5/1 cl.  
Silver's (L.) *Our Bobbie*, cr. 8vo. 2/1 parchment.  
Thring's (E.) *Addresses*, 12mo. 5/1 cl.  
Vincent's (M. R.) *The Covenant of Peace*, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.  
Yorke's (C.) *Dudley, a Novel*, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.  
Zola's (E.) *A Soldier's Honour, and other Stories*, cr. 8vo. 6/1 cl.

## FOREIGN.

## Theology.

Druffel (A. v.): *Monumenta Tridentina*, Part 3, 4m.

## Fine Art.

Musset (G.): *Les Fanciennes Rochelaises*, 25fr.  
Oppenord (Gille Marie), *Les Œuvres*, de 60fr.

## History and Biography.

Erman (A.): *Aegypten u. Aegyptisches Leben im Alterthum*, Vol. 2, 10m.  
Gutschmid (A. v.): *Geschichte Trans.*, 4m.

## Philology.

Avesta, the Sacred Books of the Parsis, edited by K. F. Geldner, Part 4, 12m. 50.  
Catulli Carmina, rec. B. Schmidt, 4m.  
Jahrbuch d. Vereins f. Niederdeutsche Sprachforschung, Vol. 12, 4m.  
Mittheilungen aus der Papyrus Erzherzog Rainer, 20m.

## General Literature.

Ebers (G.): *Ellfén, ein Wästenraum*, 4m.  
Heyse (F.): *Villa Falconieri, u. andere Novellen*, 6m.

## BRADSHAW'S RAILWAY GUIDE.

It is curious to observe the difficulties which surround questions of the most modern bibliography. Although some of your readers can remember the first public steam railway, the questions surrounding the early issues of *Bradshaw* are still not settled. Yet this book was no private volume or one appealing only to a literary public, but a useful companion for every one who used a railway.

Let me briefly summarize the more obvious loci classici where the questions have been started or discussed. In *Notes and Queries*, 3rd S. vii. 261 (1865), Mr. Thoms, the editor, considered *Bradshaw's Monthly Railway Guide*, Manch., 1842, 16mo., to be the original edition, and knew of one number of *Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables* for September, 1842, Manch., s. sh., fol.; in 3rd S. vii. 329, "Kappa" describes a *Bradshaw's Railway Companion* of 1840, suggesting that that was the original edition. In the *Athenæum*, December 27th, 1873, a note stated, *à propos* of the death of Mr. W. J. Adams, the publisher of *Bradshaw*, that Mr. Adams "in 1839 projected, and in connexion with Messrs. Bradshaw & Blacklock of Manchester brought out, the first of the *Railway Guides* which have made the name of Bradshaw famous. The first number.....consisted of only about thirty-eight pages." This probably refers to an early number of *Bradshaw's*

*Railway Guide*, first issued in December, 1841, or at any rate does not accurately describe any earlier form of the *Guide*. This called forth a letter in the *Athenæum* of January 17th, 1874, from Mr. Robert D. Kay, "editor of *Bradshaw*," who said that "Mr. Adams never was in any way connected with the 'projection' of the *Railway Bradshaw*, nor, indeed, was he even connected with the firm" till later. "The first number of *Bradshaw* contained nothing more than one page, showing the Liverpool and Manchester trains, and a small map of England and Wales. The number you refer to was one of the earlier copies of a new series, brought out in a cheaper form," not put together "by the old method of pasting the leaves together, a plan which up to this time had been in operation." The project was really the result of accident, the success or otherwise of which did not at the time enter the mind either of Mr. Bradshaw, who suggested the idea, or myself, with whom the idea was entirely left to carry out." In the issue of January 24th Mr. Henry J. Adams, traversing some of Mr. Kay's remarks, states that the original work was *Bradshaw's Railway Companion*, which "appeared occasionally, and was supplemented by a monthly Time Sheet, giving the latest alterations, which at that time (1838 and some years afterwards) were made very irregularly." He says that Mr. W. J. Adams shortly after 1838 "took up the agency of the *Companion* and Time Sheet..... which had been previously published in London by Messrs. Tilt & Bogue..... The monthly railway *Guide*..... appeared first in December, 1841." "The *Companion* continued to appear as well as the *Guide* until 1848..... The monthly Time Sheet is still published." In *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. viii. 45 (1883), we are in the dark ages again. Mr. John Rivington cannot believe that a letter in the *Times* of July 3rd, 1883, could be correct in saying that *Bradshaw's Railway Guide* completed its fiftieth year of publication on the 1st of July. He is right, but he goes on to suggest that a copy of *Bradshaw's Railway Companion* dated 1843 may be the "first issue of that popular series." It contains thirty-three folios of letterpress, with maps and plans. In the number for August 4th various correspondents describe a *Railway Companion* of 1842 and (a supposed one) of 1839; and (at last) Mr. Walter Hamilton describes *Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables*, dated 10th Mo. 19th, 1839. Mr. E. Solly and Mr. E. H. Coleman show that the mistake about the jubilee of *Bradshaw* arose from an error of one hundred in the running number of the *Guide*, which bore No. 34 in September, 1844, but No. 144 in July, 1845! But Mr. Solly states that the *Companion* was first issued in January, 1842. In *Notes and Queries*, 6th S. xi. 15 (1885), Mr. John Gadsby declares that he, not Bradshaw, was the originator of *Bradshaw's Railway Guide*, referring to a correspondence in the *Manchester Courier*; and that *Gadsby's Monthly Railway Guide* was first issued in 1839, whereas "Bradshaw did not begin his until 1841, in the doing of which he copied from me." Some inaccurate statements follow.

The length to which the above summary has run may, I think, be excused if it shows the extraordinary mistiness which surrounds the subject; and it adds another proof, if proof be needed, that recollections are of very small value in matters of bibliography, unless they are in close connexion with the editions themselves. Mr. W. E. A. Axon (who has kindly supplied me with a reference to discussions in the *Salford Weekly News*, July 2nd, 1870, and the *Manchester Guardian* early in 1885) says that, so far as he knows, there is no complete set of *Bradshaw* anywhere. The account of George Bradshaw in the 'Dictionary of National Biography' is quite accurate so far as it extends, while that in the *Minutes of Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers*, vol. xiii. p. 145 (1854), hardly mentions the *Railway Guide*.

Let me now describe a few of the actual volumes issued which are in the Bodleian Library.

1, 2. No one seems to have noticed that George Bradshaw issued his first railway time tables in two forms, one for the Liverpool and Manchester district, and one for London and the Birmingham district. To some extent the two overlap one another; the issues I have seen bear the dates respectively of Oct. 19th, 1839, and Oct. 25th, 1839. Until further evidence is forthcoming these must be regarded as the earliest form of *Bradshaw*. The title in both is "Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables, and assistant to Railway travelling, with illustrative maps and plans. Author [sic] of Bradshaw's Map and section of the Railways of Great Britain..... sold by G. Bradshaw, Brown Street, Manchester; and Wyld, Charing Cross, London. Price Sixpence. London: Shepherd & Sutton, and Wyld, Charing Cross, and sold by all booksellers and railway companies. 10th Mo. 19th [in the Southern issue, "25th"], 1839." This is on the verso of the first leaf. The next page in both contains the "Address": "This book is published by the assistance of the several Railway Companies, on which account the information it contains may be depended upon as being correct and authentic..... The next edition of this work will be published on the 1st of 1st Mo. 1840; and succeeding Editions will appear every three months, with such alterations as have been made in the interval." The differences which exist between the two can only be shown by a comparative table:—

*Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables.*

Issue Oct. 19, 1839.*	Issue Oct. 25, 1839.*
P. 1. Blank.	P. 1. Blank.
2. Title.	2. Title.
3. Address.	3. Address.
4-5. Map of the Railways in Lancashire.	4-5. Map of railway Birmingham to Fenny Stratford.
6-7. Liverpool to Manchester (time table).	6-7. Map of railways Fenny Stratford to London, and Cambridge to London.
8-9. Liverpool (plan).	8-9. London to Birmingham (time table).
10-11. Manchester to Liverpool (time table).	10-11. Birmingham to London (time table).
12-13. Manchester (plan).	12-13. Birmingham (plan).
14-15. Manchester to Littleborough (time table).	14-15. Birmingham to Liverpool and Manchester (time table).
16-17. Map of the Manchester and Leeds, North Midland, York and North Midland, Leeds and Selby, and Sheffield and Rotherham railways.	16-17. Liverpool and Manchester to Birmingham (time table).
18-19. York to Leeds and Selby [and] Sheffield and Rotherham railway (time tables).	18-19. Map of the Grand Junction and Manchester and Birmingham railways.
20-21. Leeds (plan).	20-21. Liverpool to Manchester, &c. (time table).
22-23. Preston to Liverpool and Manchester (time table).	22-23. Map of the railways in Lancashire (4 in. extra at foot, including Northwich, as compared with the other issue).
24-25. Manchester to Bolton (time table).	24-25. Hackney coach fares from Euston Station, London.
26-27. Hackney coach fares from Lime Street, Liverpool, to.....	* Purple cloth, 4½ x 3½ in., lettered in purple relief on gold "Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables. Price 6d."
* Green cloth, 4½ x 3½ in., lettered in gold on side "Bradshaw's Railway Time Table."	

3. The next issue of which there is any definite record is "Bradshaw's Railway Companion, containing the times of departure, fares, &c., of the Railways in England, and also Hackney Coach fares from the principal railway stations, illustrated with maps of the country through which the railways pass, and plans of London, Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, and Manchester. Price one shilling. Manchester, printed and published by Bradshaw & Blacklock, 27, Brown-street; and sold by Charles Tilt, Fleet-street, London; and all booksellers and railway companies. 1840." The Address is partly a reproduction of the one given above, but has no notice of preceding or subsequent issues. The size is 4½ x 3½, and may be described as of thirty-five leaves, including plans, maps, and one set of sections: bound in purple cloth, with "Bradshaw's Railway Companion. Price 1s.," in green relief on a gold ground, on side. The type and style are identical in the Time Tables and Companion, and the maps common to the two appear also to be identical; the letterpress, of course, varies, and there are many additions; but on the whole the appearance of the book

suggests that it is the promised issue on the "1st of 1st Mo. 1840."

4. There is a similar volume to No. 3, dated 1841, in which the title-page and address are the same, except that "Charles Tilt" appears as "Tilt & Bogue." It may be described as having thirty-eight leaves, including a "Table shewing the rate of travelling per hour," from one to four hundred miles an hour! The next issues known are those for 1842, 1843, and 1844, in the British Museum.

5. The last issue in this series at present known is that for "9th Mo. (September) 1st, 1845," bearing the date and "second edition" on the title-page, with "London, published at Bradshaw's Railway Information Office, 59, Fleet-street, W. J. Adams, agent; and sold by all booksellers and railway companies." Advertisements also appear, a paging and an index, with other signs of improvement.

6. The first issue of the *Guide* still published is undoubtedly "Bradshaw's Railway Guide: Containing a correct account of the hours of arrival and departure of the Trains on every Railway in Great Britain; a Map of England, with the Railways completed and in progress, Hackney Coach Fares, &c. For December, 1841. Manchester: Printed and published by Bradshaw & Blacklock, 27, Brown-Street, and sold by W. J. Adams, 170, Fleet Street, London, and may be had through all booksellers and newsmen." Size, 6½ x 4½ in. Of this monthly issue, which does not essentially differ from the present *Guide*, the British Museum appears to have a complete set, excepting the first two numbers for 1842 (which are fortunately included in the fairly complete set in the Bodleian).

There remain the issues in single sheets. The only copy actually accessible seems to be "Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables, for September, 1842. Manchester [1842], s. sh., fol.," so described in the British Museum Catalogue.

It is clear then that, so far as our present information goes, October, 1839, saw the first issues of a Northern and a Southern *Bradshaw*, followed on January 1st, 1840, by a fusion of the two under a different title; but the issue was perhaps only annual till 1845, which year saw two editions, and which (or 1843) may have been the last of its publication. Meanwhile in December, 1841, began the monthly publication of the familiar *Bradshaw*, each number being accompanied with a notice that it was also issued as a sheet, priced threepence, with the title *Bradshaw's Railway Time Tables*, a copy of which sheet for September, 1842, is in the British Museum.

F. MADAN.

'TICONDEROGA.'

46, Marlborough Hill, Dec. 20, 1887.

LORD ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL'S question, "Why does Mr. Stevenson make the murderer a Stewart?" suggests the counter-question which the March Hare put when Alice made a similar inquiry, "Why not?" Surely nobody at this time of day regards as historical the supernatural details cited by your correspondents; and provided that Mr. Stevenson's admirable ballad preserves the essence of the legend, what signifies the name of the murderer? "A Stewart" is bold, rhythmical, and suitable to oppose to "a Cameron"—but "a MacNiven"! Well, if the murderer's name had been Day and the victim's Martin, perhaps no one would have objected to a change; and why should Mr. Stevenson be expected to immortalize in a ballad the scarcely less well-known trading firm of MacNiven & Cameron? H. BUXTON FORMAN.

'INGENUOUS HONE.'

5, Warwick Terrace North, Upper Clapton, Dec. 14, 1887.

KINDLY permit me to say, as my father's—the late Mr. William Hone's—MSS. and papers are now in my hands, that no genuine or authorized biography has yet appeared (owing to uncon-

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trollable circumstances), and therefore that many erroneous fabrications have found their way into print, and very naturally have been accepted by many persons as facts.

Not the least flagrantly absurd has lately been reproduced, from a work purporting to be 'Memoirs of Authors,' in an announcement by Messrs. Ward & Lock of their "issue" of our father's principal literary works, the 'Every Day,' 'Table,' and 'Year Books,' that Mr. Hone, in his later years, took up a ministerial position in a Congregational church in London—a statement which the publishers have most willingly pledged themselves to cancel in any reprints of their interesting and pertinently telling leaflet.

ROSE HONE.

#### 'THE PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.'

MISS MABEL ROBINSON writes regarding her novel which we reviewed last week:—

"To write 'Kingston' for Kingstown is, indeed, either 'an unpardonable Anglicism' or a very simple printer's error. The mistake occurs once, and once only, in my story, and elsewhere the word is spelt correctly. Again, although the little girl who 'sore'er go' was of Irish descent, she was a Londoner in every other respect, and your readers must decide whether a cockney nursemaid or an Irish ancestor has the greater influence on the speech of childhood."

DR. JOHN TOLEKEN.

THERE are men whose special quality it is to lead and influence others without ever coming forward themselves, to suggest and criticize without creating, to shrink from publicity while they are doing solid public work. The sphere in which such men are eminently useful is that of university life, and when they pass away the public that knew nothing about them wonders at the high estimate in which they are held by those who felt and watched their life. Probably no more remarkable instance of this could be found than that of Dr. Toleken, who had retired from his Senior Fellowship in Trinity College, Dublin, some years ago, and died last week, a man of eighty-four, from gradual bodily decay, though his mind was not dimmed with weakness or with age. He has left nothing written to show his powers, and yet there is but one opinion in the college as to his vast knowledge and marvellous acuteness. As a member of the governing board he was, perhaps, rather safe and provident than brilliant in his views, partly from his clear foresight of every objection and difficulty, partly from constitutional nervousness, most of all from that extreme sensitiveness which dreaded to hurt the feelings of others; for he was the most benevolent of men, feeling his neighbour's sorrow as acutely as the sufferer, shrinking nervously from rudeness in social intercourse, and even from publicity as a kind of rudeness. But though it was easy to frighten him it was hardly possible to mislead him. Hence it was with a great struggle that he won his Fellowship, and even when thirty years had elapsed I often heard him deprecate with a shudder any allusion to his anxieties and sufferings during that arduous trial.

But as a teacher, and still more as an examiner, he was without a rival. When the India Civil Service was first opened to competition he volunteered to take classes in modern history, a subject till then almost ignored in the old universities; and I well remember the surprise with which it was discovered that this had been his favourite study for years. It used to be said of him (as it has been of one or two other prodigies in patience and in learning) that he was the only man who understood the Sleswick-Holstein question from its beginning. But it was hard to find a subject in which he was not a master. In earlier days, and in his home on Cork harbour, he had turned his attention to yachting and to naval matters. He was said to know more about the navy than any admiral, and he could win a yacht race in a fishing smack if the

wind was light and his knowledge of tides and currents came into play. They tell me that when first appointed an examiner for honours in mathematics he forthwith caused a revolution in the higher examinations by introducing the theory of surfaces into his papers. This was in the year 1836, and beyond the memory of most of his remaining colleagues.

I had the fortune to come under his hand in metaphysic, and I well remember the first paper he set at Fellowship Examination as a document we all stared at in blank amazement. When we came to study the dreadful thing afterwards it turned out to be a perfect work of art, embracing almost every ingenious problem in the course, demanding an accurate comparative study of the texts, above all (this was twenty-five years ago) requiring a real and thorough knowledge of Kant's 'Kritik.' It was for us, at least, the breaking of the seven seals. From that day dates the modern philosophical school in Dublin, which has made so distinct a mark on English thought. Every year we looked forward to his Fellowship paper and oral questions as a new step in our education, for we soon found that he had eliminated chance. Though very severe in allowing credit, he made each of us feel that our marks were in exact proportion to our progress.

Such a man, of course, could not interest the public. They looked upon him as a sleepy, quiet old man, strangely resembling the portraits of Kant, whose sponsor he became in Dublin. Though a keen politician, he never took any active part in public affairs; he could hardly be induced to put his name to any public protest. Lest any man should reward him openly his aims were given in secret, and yet given without stint, not only in the common form, but in the higher sense of devoting the riches of his mind to the service of men. Any one who consulted him in trouble or perplexity found a patient and sympathetic listener, a strict and impartial judge, a subtle and sound adviser, if there were need, and a modest and generous benefactor.

J. P. MAHAFFY.

#### THE BOLEYN PEDIGREE.

MR. GREENSTREET and I are evidently at cross purposes. I said, and quite correctly (*teste* Mr. Selby, who read the roll with me), that an entry as to the Boleyn pedigree on a De Banco roll was written on an erasure. He says I am "absolutely mistaken," because another entry which occurs on the same roll, and which contains another copy of the statement, is *not* on an erasure! I understand much is to be made of the fact that "Wm. Oldhall of Essex, gent.," turns out to be a real person. But so was the Crier of the Court in recent recoveries. To prove this was a genuine suit Mr. Greenstreet should show that the sheriff of Essex really delivered seizin of land of equal value to the defendants who suffered by this wrongful warranty. Mr. Bullen, too, complains of my "grievously misrepresenting" a document, viz., the inquisition on Margaret Boleyn which found her to be insane. He will pardon my pointing out that the fact of her having been found to be insane in 1519 is no proof that she was not of weak mind in 1486, but quite the contrary. All I drew from the inquisition was an inference (and I think a perfectly fair one) that the lady of high degree in question could not have been quite right one way or the other to have been given in marriage to a man of Sir Wm. Boleyn's comparatively low social standing. It is a terrible idea, I will admit; but it will be remembered that Mr. Hewlett not so long ago cited in the *Antiquary* a case where a woman who was found to have been "fatua et idiota" from her birth was married and had two children by her husband.

WALTER RYE.

#### Literary Gossip.

A NUMBER of unbound journals and logs of the Resolution and Discovery during Capt. Cook's last voyage have recently been found at the Record Office, where they have apparently lain unnoticed by Cook's numerous editors and biographers. Prof. J. K. Laughton has been engaged upon an examination of these interesting relics, which include at least ten separate accounts of Cook's death, giving some curious variations from the accepted narrative.

AN important contribution to the history of the American struggle for independence will shortly be published by Mr. B. F. Stevens, the well-known antiquary, as 'The Campaign in Virginia, 1781,' being a reprint of the six rare pamphlets on the Clinton-Cornwallis controversy, with unpublished MS. notes by Sir Henry Clinton, and completions of the numerous fragmentary passages, illustrated by a calendar of the Lords' Journals and of 3,456 additional letters and State papers bearing on the subject which have been collected from all the archives and libraries of Europe. There will also be a copious biographical index, containing a quantity of new information. The work will be published in two volumes by the editor.

BESIDES Mr. Swinburne's *Shakespeare-Bacon jeu d'esprit*, the January number of the *Nineteenth Century* will contain contributions from Sir Henry Thompson, Mr. Matthew Arnold, Mr. Frederic Harrison, Mr. F. T. Palgrave, Sir W. W. Hunter, Prof. Goldwin Smith, Herr Theodor von Bunsen, Mr. Justice Stephen, the Bishop of Salford, and the Duke of Argyll.

MESSRS. SAMPSON LOW & Co. have decided to convert their business into that of a private limited liability company, under the title of "Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, Limited." The nominal capital of the company is 100,000*l.*, the whole of the shares in which will be held by the present members of the firm. The business will in no way be disturbed by this arrangement, as it will continue to be under the sole management of the present partners. The new company starts from the 1st of January next.

MRS. GREEN has been lately revising her late husband's 'Short History of the English People.' Acting upon his express direction, she has been careful not to interfere in any way with the plan or structure of the book, and, save in a few exceptional cases, in which she knew Mr. Green's wishes, or where a change of chronology made some slight change in arrangement necessary, she has not altered its order. Her work has been rather that of correcting mistakes of detail, and in this she has been mainly guided throughout by the work of revision done by Mr. Green himself in his larger 'History.' This new edition will be published by Messrs. Macmillan in January. It will also be issued for school purposes in four separate parts, the corresponding section of Mr. Tait's 'Analysis' being bound up with each.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN will issue early in January two volumes of 'Sermons, University and Parochial,' by the late Bishop Fraser, and also a cheaper edition of Mr. Hughes's life of the bishop; Lord

Selborne's volume on 'Ancient Facts and Fictions in relation to Church Tithes'; a new novel, 'The Second Son,' by Mrs. Oliphant; a volume of 'Four Ghost Stories,' by Mrs. Molesworth; Mr. Ainger's long-promised edition of the letters of Charles Lamb; and volumes of poems by Mr. Stopford Brooke, Mr. St. John Tyrwhitt, and the late Principal Shairp.

The widespread interest in the work of the Pipe Roll Society, which was started in 1883, is evident from the fact that among recent subscribers for complete sets of the publications are, at home, the Leeds Public Libraries, Mitchell Library, Glasgow, and St. John's College, Oxford; in America, the Philadelphia Law Association, the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the Philadelphia Library Company; and on the Continent, the universities of Halle, Kiel, Upsala, and Vienna. The public institutions thus supporting the Society are now not far short of one hundred in number.

The 'Life of Chaucer,' as told in the Public Records, is about to be sent to press for the Chaucer Society under the joint editorship of Dr. Furnivall and Mr. Walford D. Selby, of the Public Record Office.

We stated some time ago that the Sheikh Shenkity of Medina had been sent by the Sultan to examine Arabic MSS. in Spain. He afterwards went to Paris, and this week has arrived in London. Under the auspices of the Embassy he is visiting the collections in the British Museum and the India Office, where he has been received with great attention by the officials. He only regrets that the Ottoman Porte, unaware of the importance of the materials existing in England, has left him so little time at the close of the mission.

At a meeting of the Salford Corporation it has been resolved to throw open the free libraries there on Sundays. Fourteen votes were given for the opening and seven against it. The Bishop of Manchester and the R.C. Bishop of Salford have both expressed opinions coinciding with those of the majority.

A VARIETY of publications are being prepared from ancient MSS. in the Vatican Library in view of the approaching Papal jubilee. A grand album of dissertations will be issued, to be followed by many separate monographs.

A CORRESPONDENT writes about the Bibles in the Hirst Library, which were sold last week at Sotheby's:—

"I found the collection very extensive and containing many rare Bibles, but, unfortunately, almost all imperfect and in very poor condition, such as I would not buy at any price, but which, I have no doubt, cost the late proprietor large sums of money. There was a fragment of the Coverdale (about half of it), as far as it went the finest I ever saw, very large, sound, and clean. It was bought for 72l. There was also a Matthew's Bible of 1537 (the most interesting of all the old Bibles, because of the crusty and characteristic notes), very imperfect. This fetched 17l. It was described as 'wanting the first title and imprint,' whereas it wanted all the titles but one (four) and many other leaves. The Great Bible, 1539, sold for 1l. 16s.; Grafton's, July, 1540, for 5s.; another Grafton's for 3l. 12s.; Cranmer's (Great), 1541, for 1l. 10s.; and so on. These Bibles, if sound and perfect, are worth about 70l. each all round.

The first edition of the Bishops' Bible fetched 1l. 2s., another copy 3l. 17s. 6d., another 18s. These Bibles, perfect, usually make about 20l. each."

A LARGE-PAPER copy of Nichols's 'Leicestershire' was sold at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's on the 16th for 140l.

The first English daily paper published at Berlin will make its appearance on Sunday next, under the title of *The Morning News*.

A SUFFICIENT sum has been collected within a comparatively very short time for the erection of a Heine monument at Dusseldorf, which we recently mentioned. The sum amounts to 80,000 marks, of which not less than 50,000 marks have been contributed by the Empress of Austria, who is a great admirer of the wit and poet.

PROF. LAUGHTON writes:—

"Some others besides myself will probably have been disgusted at finding the last issued number (vol. vi. part i.) of Messrs. E. & G. Goldsmid's reprint of Hakluyt's 'Navigations' sewn in wire. The destructive effects of this cheap and nasty abomination are so well known that it is astonishing to find it adopted in a work like this, which makes some pretensions to appeal to book-fanciers, and for which a very full price is charged. One protest will probably do but little good; but I hope that Messrs. Goldsmid will be overwhelmed with letters similar to that which I have written to them."

FROM Brisbane we have received news of the death of the leading journalist of Queensland, Mr. C. A. Feldberg, editor of the *Brisbane Courier*. He was a Dane by birth, and arrived in Australia at the age of twenty-two. Mr. Feldberg, who was born in 1844, was the author of several novels, besides having taken an active part in the journalism of the colony. From Vienna comes intelligence of the death of a veteran Liberal journalist, Eduard Hügel.

THE January number of the *Law Quarterly Review* will contain articles on the Irish land question, by Judge O'Connor Morris; on the law of settlement and removal, by Mr. F. C. Montague; on compulsory pilotage, by Mr. E. G. Marsden; on registration of title in Prussia, by Mr. C. F. Brickdale; on the law of evidence in criminal trials as illustrated by a recent poisoning case in New Zealand, by Mr. Herbert Stephen; and on the law of Italy relating to public meetings and public order, by Senator Tommaso Corsi.

A CURIOUS feature of the educational system of the Berars is the management of the boarding-houses of the Hindu and Mohammedan high schools, which is entrusted to the boarders themselves. Each boarding-house is under the general superintendence of an assistant master, but the internal arrangements are managed by an elected committee of the boarders, who select a head manager to supervise the work of the others and preserve order.

IN Lower Burma, as might have been anticipated, education has suffered considerably owing to the disturbed state of the country in recent years. During the year 1886-7, for which the report has recently been issued, the number of pupils at primary schools was 43,679 less than in the previous year. A great improvement, however, has taken place in the indigenous lay schools, and the most remarkable feature of the

report is the evidence it affords that the monastic school—the oldest, and less than fifty years ago the only, agent of education in the province—is fast giving way to the lay school.

THE next volume of Mr. Elliot Stock's "Gentleman's Magazine Library" will be on 'Literary Curiosities.' Among the articles on literary property which occur in this section will be found some contributions by Dr. Johnson.

MR. T. J. WISE has become honorary secretary of the Shelley Society, Mr. Stanley Little having resigned.

M. LEMERRE has brought out a selection from the poems of Miss Mary Robinson, translated into French prose by M. James Darmesteter, and annotated by the translator. It is divided into three sections: "Rêves," "L'Art et la Vie," and "Réalités." French versions are in progress of 'Miss Brown' and 'Juvenilia,' by Vernon Lee, the former appearing in the *Nouvelle Revue*.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Statistical Abstract, Colonial Possessions, 1872-86; Local Taxation Returns, England, 1885-6, Part VII.; Summary of Savings Banks, Return for 1886; Drunkenness on Sunday, Scotland, Arrests for, Returns; and Local Government Loans, 1885.

## SCIENCE

*The Solomon Islands and their Natives.* By H. B. Guppy, M.B., F.G.S., late Surgeon R.N. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

*The Solomon Islands: their Geology, General Features, and Suitability for Colonization.* (Same author and publishers.)

IF we do not nowadays shoot an admiral "pour encourager les autres," it must be admitted that science in the navy is not encouraged on much more rational principles. Dr. Guppy was appointed to the Lark, surveying ship, on account of his scientific attainments; but all his expenses in connexion with his geological, botanical, and other researches had to be defrayed out of his surgeon's pay, and no space beyond his own cabin could be assigned for his collections. He does not mention these things by way of complaint; and as regards the value of the work done, that stands certainly in need of no apology. Nor do we doubt that he would gladly go again on the same terms; for, besides that he had throughout the hearty and sympathetic co-operation of both officers and crew, it is evident that he keenly enjoyed the pleasures of discovery and observation in these untrodden fields. A pleasant feature in his book is the conspicuous honesty and candour of the writer, who is careful to mention the limits of his personal acquaintance with whatever branch of science he is treating, and to supplement it from some acknowledged authority.

He was singularly fortunate in the choice of station, for there is no considerable group of Pacific islands of which so little has hitherto been known, or whose inhabitants have always had so bad a reputation for treachery and hostility to white men; and certainly it is difficult to read the journal of Gallego, Mendaña's pilot in 1569 (now first translated into English by Dr. Guppy),



describing the conduct of the Spanish explorers, without feeling that the natives have good reason for their prejudice. And unfortunately, as Dr. Guppy points out, the behaviour of white men towards these races, even in the present century, has not been materially different, while Europeans have not nowadays the excuse of believing the burning of temples or of unbelievers to be a religious duty.

The author, however, found that the inhabitants even of some of the islands which had the worst reputation were open to judicious kindness, and although the interior of the larger islands, inhabited by a more primitive and barbarous, if not a different race, remained closed to him, he was, as a rule, on the most friendly terms with the coast natives, constantly trusting himself in their hands and finding ready help from them in his various researches; and he cordially endorses the verdict of Dumont D'Urville that they would not have resisted the temptation to massacre him "si dans leur caractère il n'y avait pas eu quelques sentiments d'affection ou de pitié."

Dr. Guppy's observations relate to a great variety of topics, and they are as interesting as they are comprehensive and valuable. In discussing the physical appearance and race affinities of the people he finds that "the prevailing characters are distinctly Melanesian or Papuan," and though, as he adds, it is not difficult to describe a typical Solomon Islander, still he cannot say that there is one typical form of skull, for the variations are considerable; they resolve themselves, however, speaking generally, into two well-marked types, found respectively in the eastern and western extremities of the group. The latter has the broader head, and, though darker in colour, is the finer and more vigorous race. Among them we find two circumstances which in the Pacific constantly mark a relatively advanced condition, viz., hereditary chiefship with extensive power, as compared to mere temporary leaders or no headship at all, and a common speech widely diffused. One of the most powerful of these chiefs, a certain Gorai, is especially well affected towards white men, and on one occasion equipped and led an expedition to an island a hundred miles distant to avenge the murder of a friendly trader. There is a good deal of head-hunting, which is a standing hindrance to prosperity and to the labours of the Melanesian Mission, to whose zeal and usefulness Dr. Guppy bears emphatic testimony. The chief Gorai, however, dislikes their presence, as tending to limit the number of a chief's wives—his objections being based mainly on economic grounds, the wife being a slave and toiler.

While head-hunting testifies to the extent of a practice whose limits are to be traced as far as North-eastern India, some of the peculiar burial practices of these islanders recall those of the distant islands of Micronesia. Dr. Guppy records the deposition of the skulls of the deceased, in certain islands, inside the image of a shark. This animal is extensively worshipped in the group, and it would be interesting to know whether the practice referred to is confined to those tribes of which the shark is the special god or totem.

The natives seem to have shown unusual

want of faith in the doctor's medical, or anyhow surgical skill. He, on the other hand, describes their treatment of wounds by the placing of a hot stone in the neighbourhood of the sore, which apparently gives relief by relaxation of the adjacent muscles, as deserving investigation. It is true he confines his recommendation of it to cases which have been pronounced hopeless! In writing of the skin disease known as the Tokelau ringworm, he quotes the fact of its extension to certain islands within the last generation as proof that the date of population of these islands is very recent. The evidence is, perhaps, not altogether trustworthy; but if it is, surely a similar, though erroneous inference might be drawn from the fact that Asiatic cholera only reached England in 1831.

Some of the most interesting of Dr. Guppy's observations refer to the worked flints of palæolithic appearance found, along with fragments of carnelian and chalcedony, when breaking up new ground for cultivation, showing the presence of a population at a remote period, though possibly not the immediate ancestors of the present inhabitants. These flints raise the question, not now discussed for the first time, of the possible presence of true chalk in the Pacific. Besides the long-quoted instance in Oahu (Sandwich Islands), several examples of chalk-like rock have been recently observed in connexion with elevated coral reefs—an association which, as Dr. Guppy points out, tends to support the view that chalk is a shallow-water rather than an abyssal formation.

Without going into details on the subject, the author rather assumes than argues for an Asiatic or, at all events, Indo-Malay origin of the race, and he traces the names of certain plants (to which he might have added various place-names) from the Archipelago to the furthest groups in the Pacific.

His account of the rediscovery of the lost islands of Solomon, due more directly to the acumen of French geographers than to the labours of the explorer, is interesting, and he need, we fear, be under no apprehension that he is touching on ground already familiar to the general reader.

Dr. Guppy reminds us that pedestrian excursions in these islands are not all un-mixed enjoyment:—

"Bush walking, where there is no native track, is a very tedious process and requires the constant use of the compass. In districts of coral limestone such traverses are equally trying to the soles of one's boots and to the measure of one's temper. After being provokingly entangled in a thicket for some minutes, the persevering traveller walks briskly along through a comparatively clear space, when a creeper suddenly trips up his feet and over he goes to the ground. Picking himself up, he no sooner starts again when he finds his face in the middle of a strong web which some huge-bodied spider has been laboriously constructing. However, clearing away the web from his features, he struggles along until, coming to the fallen trunk of some giant of the forest which obstructs his path, he with all confidence plants his foot firmly on it and sinks knee-deep into rotten wood. With resignation he lifts his foot out of the mess and proceeds on his way, when he feels an uncomfortable sensation inside his helmet, in which, on leisurely removing it from his head, he finds his old friend the spider, with body as big as a filbert, quite at its ease. Shak-

ing it out in a hurry, he hastens along with his composure of mind somewhat ruffled. Going down a steep slope, he clasps a stout-looking areca palm to prevent himself falling, when down comes the rotten palm, and the long-suffering traveller finds himself once more on the ground. To these inconveniences must be added the peculiarly oppressive heat of a tropical forest, the continual perspiration in which the skin is bathed, and the frequent difficulty of getting water. There are, therefore, many drawbacks to the enjoyment of such excursions undertaken without an aim. But let there be some object to be gained, and it is astonishing how small a success amply repays the naturalist for all the toil."

And there are dangers, too, sometimes. The writer had climbed on to the top of one of those extraordinarily narrow ridges characteristic of the volcanic islands of the Pacific:

"Where we stood, the space was only between four and five feet wide, and on either side there was a drop of about 200 feet: there was no vegetation; and since we were elevated about a thousand feet above the sea we had a fine view of the island to the southward. Whilst I was lying lazily on this narrow spur, smoking a pipe and enjoying the view, a rare treat in these usually densely wooded islands, an earthquake-shock occurred which shook the spur and lasted about a quarter of a minute. The natives were scared and rushed off the spur, crying out 'Nono' (earthquake). They shouted out to me that I might be rolled off into the valley below by the next shock; but I thought it wiser to remain where I was, as the shocks often follow in quick succession. I occupied my thoughts in extemporizing a pendulum from the materials around me, in order to ascertain the line of direction of the next shock. In another minute a long stiff straw was stuck in the ground with a ball of red clay moulded around its upper end. However, no other shock occurred, and after a time I got quickly on my feet and rejoined my party."

His volume on the geology and general features of the islands must be looked on simply as a part of the larger work, and it would have been more convenient, we think, to have issued the whole as a single book, of which the second volume might have contained the geology, &c., along with some of the appendices contained in the first volume above named. The topographical descriptions of each island contain much general information, and by a series of explorations and measurements along the coasts, in the interior when practicable, and in the deep river ravines, where instructive exposures of the strata were often available, he arrived at certain geological features which, he holds, repeat themselves with considerable uniformity throughout the group. All the large islands are mainly of volcanic, the smaller frequently of recent calcareous formation, the volcanic being composed either of recently erupted rocks or partly of recent and partly of ancient and often highly crystalline rocks. That there has been enormous, though probably uniform and general upheaval, is shown not merely by the remnants of raised coral, but by the fact that the principal component of the islands of calcareous formation is identical in constitution with the volcanic and coral muds reported by the Challenger expedition to be now forming in deep waters in the neighbourhood of coral islands. It appears to be still very imperfectly solidified, and its composition varies in different localities. Indeed, another recent observer describes it, on Treasury Island, as an "im-

pure limestone." It is found encrusted here and there, to the height of many hundred feet, with coral limestone, the appearance and situation of which often indicate vast denudation. Below the "mud" formation in several of the islands is found a volcanic nucleus, which completes the history of the coral-reef island as read by Drs. Semper, A. Geikie, and J. Murray, who have pointed out that here is none of the subsidence required by Darwin's famous generalization. The volcanic cone, if not itself elevated, at all events remained stationary, while the calcareous and other deposits accumulated on it until they reached the level at which the coral builders could commence; these brought it to the surface, then elevation completed the work.

The appendices contain some valuable matter relating to the climate, botany, and other branches of natural history. We may hope that the writer will before long be enabled by the munificence of some learned society to follow up the investigations which, we regret to learn, were interrupted by bad health, and which would enhance the value of this already important and interesting monograph.

PROF. BALFOUR STEWART, LL.D., F.R.S.

THE Physical Society of London has suffered an unexpected loss by the death of its president, Prof. Balfour Stewart—a loss which will also be keenly felt by a large circle of scientific men outside the Society. Born in Edinburgh on November 1st, 1828, Dr. Stewart had only just entered his sixtieth year, and it might have been fairly hoped that his work was far from having reached its end. His early life was partly spent in Australia; but for at least thirty years he has been known in this country as a frequent contributor of papers to the British Association and to the Royal Societies of London and Edinburgh. In 1859 Dr. Stewart was appointed to the directorship of the Kew Observatory—a position which he held for about ten years, during which time he introduced some important improvements in the automatic registration of magnetic observations. Much of his attention was directed to solar physics, and his researches on this subject, undertaken in conjunction with Mr. De La Rue and Mr. Loewy, were submitted from time to time to the Royal Society. In 1867 Balfour Stewart became secretary to the Meteorological Committee, and the next year he had the satisfaction of receiving from the Royal Society the Rumford Medal, in recognition of his well-known work on the relation between absorption and radiation. The extension of Prévost's "Theory of Exchanges" had received his attention early in his scientific career. It was in 1870 that Dr. Stewart was appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy in Owens College, Manchester, and this position he retained until the day of his death. Among his text-books may be mentioned his 'Elementary Treatise on Heat,' contributed to the Clarendon Press Series in 1866, and his popular little 'Lessons in Elementary Physics,' which appeared in 1870. In conjunction with Mr. Gee he brought out in 1885 the first part of a work on 'Practical Physics,' and, jointly with Prof. Tait, he was the author of the remarkable work entitled 'The Unseen Universe.' At the time of his death Prof. Stewart was President of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester. He died suddenly on the 19th inst. at Ballymagarvey, near Balrath, in co. Meath.

#### THE PALESTINE EXPLORATION FUND.

A CHANGE has been made in the executive staff of the Palestine Exploration Fund. Mr. Walter Besant, who has for some time been

acting as unpaid secretary, has now formally accepted the office of honorary secretary. Mr. George Armstrong, who has been in the service of the Fund almost continuously since the year 1871, becomes assistant secretary and draughtsman. Mr. James Glaisher, the chairman, Prof. Hayter Lewis, and Mr. Besant will form an editorial committee.

The society will publish during the year, and present to subscribers, the survey of Jaulan with maps and memoirs, the survey of Pella, an account of the Saida sarcophagi, and Mr. Schick's discovery of Constantine's *agora*, which seems to put an end at last to the Fergusson theory on the site of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. It is also hoped to publish Mr. Guy Le Strange's 'Arabic Gazetteer of Syria.'

#### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

MR. S. C. CHANDLER, JUN., gives in Nos. 161 and 162 of Gould's *Astronomical Journal* an investigation of the light variations of that interesting Algol-type variable star, U Ophiuchi, which seems to show a remarkable retardation in the increase of brilliancy about half an hour after each minimum. If the phenomenon in question, as observed, be really objective, and not merely due to bias on the part of the observer (who, perceiving that the minimum phase was past, might at first by unconscious anticipation accelerate, and afterwards compensate by retarding, the light-increase), it will have an important bearing on the cause of the changes of brilliancy, and apparently be fatal to the hypothesis of partial eclipse by a satellite, which has hitherto afforded the most plausible explanation of the Algol type of variability. There are now nine known stars of this type; the period of the one in question is about 20 hours 8 minutes, the magnitude remaining stationary (6.0) during about three-quarters of that time, and the changes of brightness (the minimum of which is 6.5) taking place in the space of about four and a half hours.

We have received a copy of the Report of the Superintendent (Mr. Neison) of the Natal Observatory for 1886. During that year the staff consisted only of the Government Astronomer (Mr. Neison himself) and one assistant; and in consequence of the illness of the former in the early part of the year, and his absence in England (taking with him the micrometer and other parts of the equatorial instrument for repairs and alteration) during the summer and autumn, the astronomical work of the observatory was limited almost entirely to the routine observations necessary for the determination of time and the maintenance of the system of time signals. Meteorological observations were, however, also regularly carried on throughout the year.

The small planet, No. 268, which was discovered by M. Borrelly at Marseilles on the 9th of June, has been named Adorea; and No. 271, discovered by Dr. Knorre at Berlin on the 13th of October, has received the name Penthesilea.

Olbers's periodical comet was at its brightest about the middle of October, and is now only about half as bright as when it was discovered. Dr. E. Lamp succeeded with difficulty in seeing it for a short time on the morning of the 13th inst. The period being about seventy-two and a half years, the next return will be due in the year 1960. In reference to this the editor of *L'Astronomie* remarks in his December number, "Il y aura bien des changements politiques d'ici là....."; but we scarcely expect that this tolerably safe prediction will acquire for M. Flammarion any great reputation as a prophet.

A change is announced in the editorship of that valuable and well-known monthly review of the progress of astronomy, the *Observatory*. Started in the spring of 1877 by the present Astronomer Royal, Mr. Christie (then Chief Assistant at Greenwich under Sir George Airy), it was afterwards entrusted to Mr. Maunders, Superintendent of the Physical Department at

the Royal Observatory, who ably conducted it for several years, availing himself during the latter part of the time of the co-operation of two of his colleagues. With the new year it is to pass into the hands of Mr. Turner, M.A. (now Chief Assistant at Greenwich), and Mr. Common, F.R.S., so well known for his astronomical work at his own private observatory at Ealing. The new editors have already issued the useful *Companion* (which has appeared during the last three years) for 1888. In it they thank the late editors for their valuable assistance in its preparation, and announce their intention of carrying on the *Observatory* without making "any serious departure from the lines" followed by their predecessors.

#### A JAPANESE MARINE BIOLOGICAL STATION.

PROF. K. MITSUKURI, in the last number (vol. i. part iv.) of the *Journal* of the College of Science, Imperial University, Japan, gives an interesting account of the marine station lately opened on the west side of the Bay of Tokio. The neighbourhood of Misaki has long been a favourite collecting ground for naturalists, as all kinds of bottom are accessible, and "beds which furnish the world-renowned *Hyalonema*" are not far off. With *Hyalonema* a species of *Pentacrinus* is brought up clinging to the fishing lines. Mollusca are very abundant, and crustaceans are very largely represented. The main laboratory room, which is 48 ft. long by 12 ft. at the ends and 18 ft. in the middle, is able to accommodate about ten workers. The formation of the station is due to the liberality of the Department of Education and of the authorities of the Imperial University.

#### SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Dec. 15.—The President in the chair.—A letter from the Home Office was read announcing that the Queen had been graciously pleased to command that the Royal Society be allowed to enjoy the privilege of presenting their addresses to the sovereign on the throne.—On the motion of the Treasurer, seconded by Sir William Bowman, the President was requested to make a suitable reply to this gracious message.—The following papers were read: 'Note on the Development of Feeble Currents by Purely Physical Action, and on the Oxidation under Voltaic Influences of Metals not ordinarily regarded as Spontaneously Oxidizable,' by Dr. C. B. A. Wright and Mr. C. Thompson; 'The Early Development of the Pericardium Diaphragm and Great Veins,' by Prof. C. B. Lockwood; and 'An Investigation into the Functions of the Occipital and Temporal Lobes of the Monkey's Brain,' by Dr. Brown and Prof. Schäfer.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 15.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. E. Sawyer exhibited a number of flint implements from the neighbourhood of Maidenhead and Cookham, found in the Thames and river-gravel.—Sir J. C. Robinson exhibited a gold ring of the fifteenth century, with engraved figures of Our Lady and Child, St. Thomas of Canterbury, Our Lady and St. Anne, and St. Andrew, inscribed severally within the ring "trist," "fayth," "loue," "trewth"; a jewelled cross; a silver Elizabethan cup and cover; and a pair of embroidered gloves, said to have belonged to Queen Henrietta Maria.—Mr. Fortnum exhibited a small gold signet ring, with unidentified armorial bearings.—Mr. Kettlewell, through the President, exhibited a pewter vessel found at Hartree, near Bristol, with a silver Roman ring set with an intaglio, and nearly fifteen hundred coins from the time of Constantine to Gratianus. The evidence of the latter clearly points to the vessel having been deposited circa A.D. 376.—Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, by permission of Mr. Croghan, exhibited the ancient silver mace, dated 1618, and the silver seal of the now defunct borough of Grampound, Cornwall.—Canon Church read a paper on Jocelin, Bishop of Bath, 1206 to 1242, in continuation of his series of papers on the early bishops of Bath, and Bath and Wells.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Dec. 7.—Mr. T. Morgan in the chair.—Mr. E. Way described further discoveries of Roman remains at Southwark during the progress of the works for New Mint Street. These include evidences of the existence of buildings of various kinds, the water supply to them having been by terra-cotta pipes, several of which, about an inch in bore and 25 in.



long, were found. Considerable quantities of Roman pottery have been discovered at a level about 12 ft. or 14 ft. below the present surface. Not the least curious of the finds was that of a dog's skull, with some of the teeth purposely broken, possibly to prevent certain kinds of game from being destroyed. It was found on part of the site of the Common, exhibited an ancient MS. of the early part of the fifteenth century, curious for a record by which it is apparent that 160 of its pages were written between Feb. 4th, 1402, and April 22nd. The parchment has been that of a still more ancient MS. pumice-stoned to an even surface. From a word or two that can be detected, the earlier MS. was one on canon law. —A paper 'On a Roman Bronze Sword found at Bossington, Hants,' by Canon Collier, was read in the author's absence by Mr. L. Brock. —Mr. R. Allen described the remarkable cross at Ruthwell, N.B., which has recently been set up within the church in a most praiseworthy manner by the Rev. M. McFarlane, aided by a Government grant. —A paper was read by the Chairman on the work of the Association during the past session; and 'On Belies of Mary, Queen of Scots,' prepared by Mr. H. Syer Cuming.

NUMISMATIC. —Dec. 15.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair. —Messrs. M. W. Cockayne, J. L. Henderson, and E. F. Weber were elected Members. —Dr. B. V. Head exhibited an electrotype of a unique coin of the town of Maronea in Thrace, which has recently been acquired by the British Museum. It is a tetradrachm of light Attic weight, having on the obverse a very fine head of the youthful Dionysus wearing an ivy wreath. The style of the work resembles that of some of the beautiful heads of Apollo on the coins of Chalcidice. The reverse, instead of the usual vine with four or more bunches of grapes, has a single vine-branch with a large bunch of grapes occupying the whole field of the coin. Dr. Head fixed the date of the coin at about B.C. 400. —Mr. J. G. Hall exhibited a thaler of Matthew Schiner, Bishop of Sitten (Sion), Valais, struck in A.D. 1501, having on the obverse St. Theodolus in episcopal robes, and by his side Satan carrying the bell, in allusion to the well-known local tradition. —Mr. H. Montagu exhibited a noble and a quarter-noble of Edward III.'s second coinage, 1344, each with the letter Z (for London) in the centre of the reverse. —Mr. R. A. Hoblyn exhibited a set of patterns, proofs, and currency of the Kuehler copper coins for Great Britain and Ireland struck in the years 1799, 1805, 1806, and 1807. —Mr. Webster read an account of an ingenious trick by which American dollars, probably of 1801, have been, by some forger, converted into dollars of 1804 (the rare date); the figure 1 having been effaced, and a new figure 4 laid on with silver solder in such a perfect manner as to be indistinguishable. —Dr. Evans read a paper on an important and extensive hoard of Roman silver coins recently discovered at East Hartree, in Somersetshire, by a workman digging in search of a spring to supplement the water supply of Hartree Court. The hoard covered the period between the reigns of Constantine the Great and Gratian. It consisted of 1,476 specimens, for the most part in fine condition, and included some rarities. —A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Kettlewell, the owner of the coins, for his kindness in placing the hoard in Dr. Evans's hands for examination.

STATISTICAL. —Dec. 20.—Dr. T. G. Balfour, V.P., in the chair. —A paper was read 'On the Defects of English Railway Statistics,' by Sir J. Danvers. —A discussion followed the reading of the paper.

PHILOLOGICAL. —Dec. 16.—Mr. A. J. Ellis, V.P., in the chair. —Mr. K. Dornbusch read a paper on Volapük. He showed that this invention of Schleyer was a very simple and easy universal language. Its roots are made by shortening words in Latin and modern European languages, and then conveying all modifications of meaning by short prefixes and suffixes. Thus, *fat* is father; *fata*, of a father; *fate*, to a father; *fats*, fathers; *fatus*, of the fathers; *fates*, to the fathers. *Flen* is a friend; *jifen*, a female friend; *flo*, a flower; *floid*, a floweret; *nat*, nature; *natik*, natural; *ck*, somebody; *nek*, nobody; *luf*, love; *lufob*, I love; *alufob*, I loved; *palufob*, I am loved; *palufoms*, they will have been loved; *lufobod*, let us love; *lufobla*, I may love, &c. *Gudiko* is well; *gudikmo*, better; *gudikmo*, best. The numerals are Schleyer's invention: *bal*, 1; *tel*, 2; *bals*, 10; *telid*, second; *tum*, 100; *mil*, 1,000. —Mr. Ellis, Dr. Furnivall, Mr. Lecky, Mr. Bradley, and others all approved the simplicity and ingenuity of the scheme with certain reservations. Its practical success is great.

HISTORICAL. —Dec. 15.—Mr. Hyde Clarke, V.P., in the chair. —Mr. H. E. Malden read a paper 'On Historic Genealogy.' —A discussion followed, in

which Messrs. Oscar Browning, P. Baildon, and F. Palmer took part.

ARISTOTELIAN. —Dec. 19.—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair. —Miss C. E. Plumtre read a paper 'On the Rise and Development of Philosophy during the Period of the Renaissance.' —A discussion followed.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

TECH. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Sun,' Sir R. S. Ball (Juvenile Lecture).  
—Photographic, 8.  
THURS. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Moon,' Sir R. S. Ball (Juvenile Lecture).  
SAT. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Small Planets,' Sir R. S. Ball (Juvenile Lecture).

#### Science Gossip.

WE regret to announce the death of Mr. William G. Lettsom, a well-known mineralogist, and one of the authors of Greg and Lettsom's 'Manual of the Mineralogy of Great Britain and Ireland,' published in 1858 and still recognized as a valuable work of reference. Mr. Lettsom also took great interest in physics, and published papers on photography, spectroscopy, and electricity. He died on the 14th inst., of an attack of bronchitis.

THE organizing committee of the International Geological Congress has nominated the following officers for the meeting in London next autumn:—Honorary President, Prof. T. H. Huxley; President, Prof. J. Prestwich; Vice-Presidents, the President of the Geological Society, the Director-General of the Geological Survey, and Prof. T. McK. Hughes; Treasurer, F. W. Rudler; General Secretaries, J. W. Hulke and W. Topley. The session will extend from September 17th to 22nd, 1888.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & CO. will publish early in January a revised and extended edition of the well-known 'Practical Biology' of Prof. Huxley and Dr. Martin. The revision has been carried out by Mr. Howes and Dr. Scott, of the Normal School of Science, under Prof. Huxley's direction. The professor contributes a preface, in which he explains that the order of the subject is completely changed, because he has found in teaching that it is easier for students to proceed not so much from the simple to the complex as from the known to the unknown. Instead, therefore, of beginning with the lowest forms of life, and proceeding upwards, the course now takes first the familiar type of the common frog, and from this starting-point the student is led into the unfamiliar regions of invertebrate organization, until he reaches the border region between animals and plants, and can thence ascend naturally to the most complicated vegetable organisms. The book is further improved by the addition of the earthworm and the snail in the series of animal, and of *Spirogyra* in the series of vegetable types.

MR. CHARLES SMITH, whose text-books on 'Conic Sections,' 'Solid Geometry,' and 'Elementary Algebra' have achieved a reputation, has just completed a treatise on algebra for the use of the higher classes in schools and the junior students in the universities. Among the special features in the book are (1) the consideration of some of the tests of the convergency of infinite series before such series are made any use of, and (2) the introduction of a short discussion of the fundamental properties of determinants, a knowledge of which is of great and increasing practical utility. No pains have been spared to ensure variety and interest in the examples, recent examination papers and the different mathematical journals having been consulted for the purpose. The book will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. early in next month.

As was expected, Mr. J. M. Thomson, F.R.S.E., is to succeed to the Professorship of Chemistry at King's College, London, vacant by the death of Prof. Bloxam.

MR. ARTHUR DENDY, F.L.S., M.Sc., of Owens College, Manchester, and an assistant in the Zoological Department of the British Museum, has

been appointed to the Demonstratorship and Assistant Lectureship in Biology recently instituted by the University of Melbourne.

THE Government of India have consented to lend to the Amir of Afghanistan for two years the services of Mr. L. I. Griesbach, of the Geological Survey. Mr. Griesbach accompanied the Southern Force on the second Afghan campaign as geologist, in which capacity he was also a member of the Afghan Boundary Commission.

INTELLECTUAL progress is sometimes attended with strange manifestations. A young lady in the city of Mexico, Señorita Matilda Montaga, having been the first of her sex to devote herself to medical studies, the young men of the city were struck with such admiration of her courage that they got up a bullfight in her honour lately. It was a real fight, as the fact that two of the toreros were seriously hurt proved. The receipts were devoted to the purchase of books and instruments for the outfit of the lady.

SOME of the difficulties with which the curator of a museum in tropical climates has to contend are described in the last report of the Colombo Museum. It is stated that naphthaline is not so powerful a protection against the effects of climate as was anticipated. It seems to ward off the attacks of mites, but is powerless against the fungus by which the museum has recently been attacked. Not only have the specimens been attacked, but the wood of the teak cases and the glass has been covered by the fungus. Naphthaline, benzine, cyanide of potassium, carbolic acid, and other substances have all been tried in vain. The only thing found to check its growth has been citronella oil.

#### FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS.—THE WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES is now OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East, from 10 to 5.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. ALFRED D. FRIPP, E.W.S., Secretary.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORÉ'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Doré Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From 10 to 6 Daily.—Admission, 1s.

#### CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

THE fastidious student who likes to take his pleasure, if sadly, alone, and to enjoy nature in regions unfrequented by tourists, will hardly be grateful to Mr. P. G. Hamerton for having "opened up" to the world at large the peaceful waters of one of the most beautiful and renowned rivers in France. Mr. Hamerton, who has long been in love with the stream, must take the consequences of publishing *The Saône* (Seeley & Co.), a handsome volume, copiously illustrated and highly attractive, which constitutes a sympathetic dissertation on the virtues and defects of house-boats, French boatmen, villages seldom visited, artisans, officials, and people of all sorts. It is also a careful and excellently written account of a river which, from the mouth of the Doubs to Neuville, near Lyons, a stretch of about seventy-five miles, is the best river to sail on in Europe, and perhaps in the world. A good deal of rowing may be had on the Upper Saône from the Coney to Verdun-sur-le-Doubs, whence, even to Lyons, small sailing yachts are freely available. The leading characteristics of the Saône, prevailing in many scores of miles of its not very devious lower course, are openness and fine distances—a great attraction to a voyager not in a hurry, and much in love with that kind of beauty which most aptly reflects the mood of the Cherub Contemplation. In a long portion of its course the Saône is, thanks to nature and lock-building engineers, little else than a series of very long ponds with low banks, available for, we should think, such craft as Norfolk wherries, with their prodigious breadth of beam and astounding spread of canvas. Mr. Hamerton writes copiously about the adaptability of boats to the

use of his river, but, while he seems to admire the Windermere yacht, he says nothing of the bewitching craft of the Broads. This noble river, even in its upper course between the rocky Vosges and historical Auxonne, is accessible to canoeists, and in no small portion of its windings to scullers in the skiffs and gigs used on the Thames. Mr. Hamerton is like his favourite river, though "not o'erflowing, full"; and as the bright and placid stream bore him gently yet strongly on his course, so he leads the reader, even while the wind is adverse and large spaces of the landscape serve better for "open distances" than for nearer studies, through miles and miles of dense forest, or past villages, towns, churches, abbeys, forts, Roman and mediæval remains, and fortifications of all ages; past islands fitter for the Lady of Shalott than the *bourgeoisie* of Lyons, who have settled upon them; along lonely reaches, and under long lines of poplars, white, and black, and grey. With the calm-minded and leisurely voyager we like to linger in the great shining curves of the middle and upper Saône, while he points out here a scrap of fine carving on a doorway, there a strikingly picturesque group of trees, buildings, and clouds sublimely massed with hills and rocks and gigantic shadows. It is not every one who, drifting in his boat from the open air and sunlit landscape of a glorious summer afternoon, could interest us with an account of going through a tunnel, which our author encountered on the canalized Saône near Ovanches, thus:—

"We came upon it suddenly as we turned aside from the pleasant river and saw before us the grim entrance, with its severe monumental architecture, its sad-looking firs and pines standing on each side, silent on the green sward, all dark in the shadow of the hill. There was nothing to help us through the dark vault but the very slowest of all imaginable streams, produced artificially by the partial opening of the water-gates beyond. By an almost imperceptible motion this stream took us into the darkness, and then, for our encouragement, it tranquilly sent us back again. After what seemed an interminable delay, the stream slowly drew us a second time under the vault, and then, as if to make us forget our lugubrious surroundings, the Patron cheerfully announced dinner. The saloon was lighted, the blind drawn, and we tried to make believe that we were dining exactly as usual. It was impossible, however, to forget one's surroundings, and, for my part, I find tunnels depressing to the imagination. It was clear to me that the bargemen felt the same oppressive influence. One of them on the boat that led the train began to fight against it by singing in a powerful and very musical voice. His song was a monotonous ballad, that seemed to have no end, but it certainly helped to pass over our forty minutes of funereal gloom. The ballad being at last concluded, the singer gave us the magnificent 'Chant du Départ,' with admirable power and feeling. Most men would hesitate about following so fine a voice, but the Patron was restrained by no such feeling of prudence. The last note of the 'Chant du Départ' had hardly died away when the Patron jumped upon the little platform before his cabin, and announced in a loud voice that he was about to favour us with a ballad entitled 'Corsican Vengeance.' It was a sanguinary history, sung to an air of the most lugubrious character, and with a voice that for tone and tune resembled the raven much more nearly than the nightingale. This completed our wretchedness, and we felt it as a deliverance when Franki in joyful accents announced that we should very soon be out. Daylight became visible once more, and our musical dinner was over. Music is a luxury, no doubt, but one glimmer of daylight, as you emerge from the bowels of the earth, is more cheering than all the powers of song."

Our experience of traversing canal tunnels in barges inclines to favour progress by lying on one's back and pushing against the roof with one's feet. This, when the roof is within toe-reach, is preferable to poling against the bottom, while, in the dark, rowing is out of the question. The innumerable cuts in this book are extremely neat and pretty. In many cases, that of 'Gray from the North-East,' p. 124, we gain by this means charming ideas of what is to be seen on the Saône. Gray is evidently Mr. Hamerton's favourite town upon this river, and he gives good reasons for his preference. A vein of humour,

quite English and un-French, runs through the text, and is seen at its best in innumerable apologies for the ineffable perversities of the Boussemrout (such is the name of the wonderful craft in which our author travelled). Swift himself hardly surpassed the statement: "It may seem like an exaggeration, but it is the simple truth that a contrary wind is better for the Boussemrout." This beautiful craft was really at her best, we suppose, when, as often happened, she stuck, pressed by a side wind, and fast beyond the powers of donkey towage, to the leeward side of the stream, and there remained till the wind changed.

*Legends for Lionel, in Pen and Pencil*, by Walter Crane (Cassell & Co.), is full of fresh fun and crammed with delightful sketches in colour showing how Master Lionel Crane encountered Winter and Thaw, and in a too lovely vision saw Christmas, a pantomime in cloudy outlines and a little house in a garden of Christmas trees, the door of which was opened by a turkey of courteous stateliness unparalleled, supported by attendant sausages of unexpected ludicrousness. To say that this is the funniest book we have seen for some time would be no compliment to either Mr. Crane or his son. It is simply worthy of both of them. Can we say more?

*In Southern Seas: a Trip to the Antipodes*, by "Petrel" (Edinburgh, Grant & Son), is a bright, compact, and highly readable narrative, full of incidents and illustrated with clever little vignettes drawn by "Twain." We are not quite sure, so artful are advertisers nowadays, that the capital book is not an advertisement—not, of course, paid for—of the New Zealand Shipping Company, on board whose magnificent vessel *Avrangi*, 4,163 tons burden, "Petrel" went out to the antipodes. At any rate the company ought to give the author a free pass for life. Bound for Paramatta we should certainly go in this ship.

*The Poetical Works of Sir W. Scott*. (Boston, U.S. Ticknor & Co.)—Although it comes from the United States, many of the designs in this handsome volume are not unknown to us; at least some of them, including several clever cuts to 'Marmion,' we have seen and reviewed before. Mr. W. J. Rolfe, who has edited the book, avers that the texts of all the editions of Scott's works in this country and in the United States published during the last fifty years are corrupt, including those of "Lockhart, who rarely corrected an error in Scott's editions." Some years ago Mr. Rolfe published what he called a "Students' Edition" of 'The Lady of the Lake' and 'Marmion,' and mentioned numerous examples of the corruptions in question, which were specially rife in the latter poem. Of those corruptions, which are, we are bound to say, generally of no real consequence, and such as only one less acute than a printer's reader need trouble himself about, the volume before us has been purged (we have nevertheless amused ourselves by finding easily half a dozen "literals," as printers say); the punctuation of the poems has been revised according to Mr. Rolfe's "modern ideas," so that thousands of "superfluous points" (i.e., commas) have been deleted. We are not so grateful for this "restoration" as, perhaps, we ought to be, and we think that, apart from mere mechanical errors the dullest editor is sure to hit upon and correct, it would have been better to retain the older mode of punctuation and characteristics of the text which are unquestionably Scott's. Removing these cannot but deprive us of the just and full expression of the poet's mind, which is a great deal more valuable than "recent usage" can ever be. It is one of the impertinences, not to say the curses, of modern editing that many persons in Mr. Rolfe's position take it on themselves to tamper with the author's mode of writing, and thus adapt to their own tastes a text they have no business to meddle with. Over too many volumes and the thought they convey the editorial flat-iron

has been passed. It is not sufficient that the meaning of any author who has literary power should be left intact when the smoothing process is complete. Nor are we thankful to Mr. Rolfe for having severely abridged Scott's notes to his poems, which the present editor calls "voluminous," although to thousands of readers they are precious. The fact that Lockhart, who certainly was a very careless editor, accidentally in 1833 dropped out a whole page of a note to 'The Lady of the Lake' is no justification for wholesale excision, or any excision whatever, from another edition. As to the cuts before us, although none of them is better than third rate, they are tolerably good, the landscapes being, as usual, much better than the figure designs.

APART from a host of rubbish, the following volumes for children, each possessing more or less of merit, deserve a few words. In the *Christmas Box of Stories and Pictures*, edited by A. Holme, are many pretty and some excellent cuts of children; for instance, the sleeping boy illustrating 'Mrs. Duck,' some of the groups in outline, and 'The Empty Nest.' The *Old Corner Annual*, under the same editorship, contains a number of really pretty cuts (of spirited and varied design) of children and animals, among which we may mention Mr. R. Barnes's contributions, and a bright and well-engraved head of 'Little Nancy.' Of the cuts in *Little Marget, and other Stories*, by M. A. Hoyer, it may be said that many of the designs and all the cuts possess spirit and interest, although Mrs. H. M. Paget, artist of the cuts, has not yet learnt how to draw even tolerably well. In *The Land of Nod*, by A. C. Marzetti, with illustrations by F. C. Gould, has some amusing writing, and its cuts would be the better if the artist could or would draw better. His *Little Royal Highness*, by R. Ogden, contains a good number of nice and simple stories for children, and capital cuts of boys and girls by Mr. W. Rainey. All the above books are published by Messrs. Griffith, Farran & Co.—*Pepper and Salt; or, Seasoning for Young Folk*, by H. Pyle, published by Messrs. Low & Co., is enriched with a goodly group of wise and lively apologues in prose and verse, and extremely clever and original designs. We cordially recommend the book as not only one of the best of the current season, but inferior to very few known to us of other years. It comes from New York, where it originally appeared.

#### NOTES FROM ROME.

THE discoveries made in the Tiber, on the occasion of its embankment and of the widening and deepening of its bed, must be divided into two groups: those made in the bed of the river and those made on the banks. From the former little or nothing has been obtained, not from any deficiency of the *materia prima*, but because the dredgers have been idle most of the time. I may mention, however, the find of a mass of pig-lead, shaped like those in the British Museum, weighing thirty-three kilos, and inscribed with the legend "Company of the argentiferous mines of Mount ILVOR [sic]," and then follows the word GALENA, which denotes that special kind of lead which is obtained from the smelting of the argentiferous ore. As regards the name of the mine, I believe that ILVOR is a mistake for ILVRO, a place mentioned by Pliny in the province of Bætica. The find of this mass of lead, however insignificant it may appear, is not destitute of topographical interest. The mass must have fallen overboard by accident when the ship was unloading alongside the "Lead" or "Spanish" wharf. This circumstance enables us to determine the position of this wharf and of the corresponding warehouses—both the property of the Crown—in the neighbourhood of the Marmorata, on the left bank of the river, nearly opposite the Ripa-grande. To give an idea of the activity which must have prevailed under the Empire in the lead trade I shall mention one detail only. The lead pipe



which carried the water from a reservoir, near the modern railway station, to the Forum of Trajan (fragments of which I discovered in 1877 in the Piazza del Quirinale, and in 1879 in the Piazza di Termini) was 1,750 metres long, and weighed 133 kilos per metre. Therefore the whole pipe must have absorbed a grand total of 232,750 kilos of metal, nearly 233 tons; and of these conduits there were many thousands in Rome and its vicinity. The one discovered by the Borghese in their farm of Acquatraversa, four miles outside the Porta del Popolo, measured 67 centimètres in diameter, and weighed some 900 lb. per metre.

The left bank of the Tiber, from the Pons Æmilii (Ponte Rotto) to the very end of the city, was divided into sections or wharves, styled technically *portus*, harbours. These wharves did not protrude into the river; they were simply sections of the quay or embankment, parallel with the stream, selected for a particular kind of trade (marbles, wine, oil, lead, pottery, building materials, timber, fuel, and so forth), and named from their special appropriation, as the *portus vinarius*, *lignarius*, &c.; or from the owner of the wharf, as the *portus Licinii*, *portus Vargæ*, &c.; or lastly, from the seaport with which the exchange of merchandise was made, such as the *portus Neapolitanus*. Of this "quay of Naples" in old Rome a curious record has been found in the catacombs of S. Sebastian on the Appian Way. It is engraved, or rather written, with a sharp stick on a tile—before the clay was dried and baked—which tile was afterwards used to wall up the opening of a tomb or *loculus* of the fourth century. The inscription runs as follows: "Beneventus has ordered of Julius four hundred tiles, to be consigned, ready for shipment, at the Neapolitan quay." This document shows how primitive and simple a method was followed in Roman brick-kilns to register the orders for the day.

Not fewer than nine stone *cippi*, marking the extent of the *ripa publica*, have been discovered of late in the neighbourhood of the Farnesina. They belong to the various surveys made during the first two centuries of the Empire, to check the encroachments of private landowners on public property. The numberless stone posts discovered up to the present time mention at least nine of these surveys, from the one made by the censors Messalla and Isauricus in 54 B.C. to the last made by Diocletian, A.D. 300. Of the nine inscribed stones lately brought to light, two only are worth a special description. On the first we read: "By order of the Emperor Vespasian, consul for the fourth time (A.D. 73), censor, &c., I Dillius Aponianus, superintendent of the banks and of the bed of the river, have made a new survey along the *ripa Veientana*, and have raised this stone, which is three hundred and thirty-six feet distant from the nearest one." The importance of the legend is concentrated, as the scholar will easily detect, in the name *Ripa Veientana* applied to the right bank of the Tiber, in lieu of the more rational expression *Ripa Transtiberina*. Who would have thought that, towards the end of the first century of our era, Veii would have still been held in such estimation as to give its name to the right bank of the river, in the very heart of the metropolis of the empire?

The other *cippus* is by far the most important of the whole set, and ranks amongst the choicest documents on the topography of Rome brought to light since the Renaissance. Enough to say that it reveals, for the first time, the existence and the name of a bridge across the Tiber of which nobody had ever heard before, either from classic writers or modern topographers, or from inscriptions, coins, and other such sources of genuine information.

The stone, which is nearly six feet high, has been discovered *in situ* right behind the church of S. Biagio della Pagnotta, between the Strada Giulia and the new quay, at a distance of twelve metres inland from the edge of the left bank

of the river. The inscription reads as follows: "By order of Tiberius Claudius, Cæsar, Augustus, &c., we, Paulus Fabius Persicus, C. Eggius Marullus, C. Obellius Rufus, L. Sergius Paullus, L. Scribonius Libo, chief commissioners of the Tiber and of its banks, have marked with this line of cippi the limits of the public property (on the left bank) from the *TRIGARIUM* to the Bridge of Agrippa, AD PONTEM AGRIPPÆ."

The "Trigarium," mentioned as the place, up stream, from which the determination of the bank began, was an open space—a small bit of the Campus Martius—used for the breaking in and training of horses, for which purpose the ancients availed themselves of the *triga*, the wild animal being harnessed between two trained ones. These training-grounds had been variously placed, by Canina in the region of S. Maria in Aquiro, by Preller in the region of the Cancelleria, and so forth. The terminal stone just found shows that the Trigarium must be placed on the river itself, in the district crossed by the Via Giulia, somewhere between the Sacchetti and the Farnese palaces.

As regards the Bridge of Agrippa, all our science is at a loss to explain the mystery. It seems impossible that there should have existed in ancient Rome a bridge of the first class, thrown across the Tiber by such a man as Agrippa, in the golden age of our history, yet that of such a grand undertaking not a trace should be left *in situ* or be found in written or engraved documents! There are two solutions only proposed of this topographical conundrum. The first, and to me less probable, is that this Bridge of Agrippa was swept away by a freshet soon after the accession of Claudius, and its remains carefully removed and obliterated to restore a free and secure navigation up and down stream. The second and more acceptable explanation is that the bridge now called Ponte Sisto may have been built originally by Agrippa. Its history is unknown. From the name *Pons Aurelius* or *Pons Antonini* given to it in the third century its construction has been attributed to Caracalla. Caracalla, however, may have been simply a restorer of the bridge, and we know that Roman bridges used to change their name after every restoration. The one in question, if we are right in identifying it with the *Pons Agrippæ* of the newly discovered stone, was called after its founder up to the end of the second century; after Caracalla up to the year 366; after Valentinian, its third restorer, up to the year 792; "broken" or "fractus" after the inundation of 792; and Sixtus after the Pope who reconstructed it in 1475.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

#### A HITHERTO UNNOTICED PORTRAIT AND ENGRAVER.

Villa Nova, Blackrock, Dublin, Dec. 3, 1887.

It may interest readers of the *Athenæum* to hear of an historic portrait of the first half of the seventeenth century, apparently unknown to collectors and engraved by an artist of whom no biographical details are accessible. The portrait is that of General Thomas Preston, who was for his services created Viscount Tara by Charles II. In a holograph letter, now in the Bodleian Library, that king wrote:—

"When I came first to Bruges in Flanders, and was far from being in a good condition, I found my lord of Tara there, who invited me to his house, where I lodged near a month, till I could provide another place for myself; and during the whole time of my abode in those parts he gave me frequent evidences of his good affection and duty to me."

Thomas Preston was son of Christopher Preston, fourth Viscount Gormanston, in the county of Meath, in Ireland. He served with distinction for many years as colonel of a regiment under the King of Spain, and enjoyed the friendship of Strafford, Viceroy in Ireland. Preston returned to Ireland in 1642, and accepted the post of General in the province of Leinster under the Irish Confederation, of

which all his relatives were members. The portrait referred to was engraved at Kilkenny in 1645, as part of a memorial of the capture in the same year of the important fort of Duncannon on the Wexford coast. That stronghold of the Parliamentary party commanded the approaches to the harbour of Waterford, and resisted the Irish Royalists under Preston during a siege from the 20th of January, 1644/5, to the 18th of the following March. Preston's portrait, which is elaborately engraved in a style quite equal to that of Hollar, appears in an oval in the upper part of a copper-plate plan of the siege of Duncannon, carried on under his command. The General is represented in armour and with uncovered head, behind him on a pillar is the escutcheon of his arms. At foot is a dedicatory inscription as follows: "Illustrissimo, nobilissimoque Domino, Domino Thomæ Preston, Lageniensis exercitus in Hibernia Generali, arcisque Duncannon expugnatori, gubernatorique meritissimo." Subjoined is the entry: "Gasp[ar] Huberti sculp[ist] Kilkenny, 1645." Preston's likeness, as thus engraved, corresponds with the oil painting of him in the possession of Viscount Gormanston. This picture is preserved at Gormanston Castle, in the county of Meath, with portraits of members of the house of Gormanston.

The only copy at present known of the engraved plan of the siege and the portrait of Preston is that extant in the library of Trinity College, Dublin. An autotype facsimile of it will appear in the forthcoming volume of the 'History of the Irish Confederation, 1644-5,' to illustrate hitherto unpublished letters and papers concerning the siege of Duncannon. Of Gaspar Huberti or his productions no account seems to have as yet been printed. I may add that a Latin diary of the siege, under the title of 'Obsidio et Expugnatio Propugnaculi Duncannon,' was printed at Lyons in 1656, and at Würzburg in 1666; but it makes no reference to the engraved plan or to the artist by whom it was executed.

JOHN T. GILBERT, F.S.A.

#### Five-Act Gossip.

ELDERLY people used to know Newman's office for those yellow-bodied post-chaises which once traversed England from the west side of Regent Street to Penzance, and very frequently went to Gretna Green. A younger generation was more or less familiar with this historic site when in the occupation of a meat-supplying company. It is No. 121, Regent Street, near Vigo Street, and, as we understand—for the negotiations do not seem to be complete—will probably very early next spring be the site of the new picture gallery, which, unofficially, at least, is likely to bear the name of the "Halicarnassus." We give the following details, subject to corrections of all sorts. Mr. E. R. Robson, who built the galleries of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, Piccadilly, will, it is said, be the architect, and if so, supposing the negotiations are completed, his builders will be at work from next week day and night. Much of the existing structure will, with re-roofing and decorations, be available, so that the whole may be ready in four months from now. The site occupies a quarter of an acre, and lends itself to the purpose. Mr. Robson understands picture-gallery lighting; the comparatively low buildings in the neighbourhood favour the erection of two large galleries on or near the ground level, about 80 ft. by 40 ft. each, and a central court of nearly 70 ft. by 50 ft., all lighted from the top, with refreshment-rooms, offices, &c. The central court will, we understand, be a striking feature of the design, the roof being sustained by ten massive marble columns, while, uniting these columns, there will be a self-lighted gallery, on the outer walls of which drawings and etchings may be hung. The floor of the court, which will be of marble and have a small fountain in the centre, will serve as a place for

exhibiting sculpture, the like of which is not, nor can be, in London till the Academy rooves in the quadrangle at Burlington House. All the decoration will be of the simplest character, so as not to interfere with the pictures exhibited; still it will not be without richness of colour and effect. The wall will be divided by pilasters, as at the Grosvenor, into spaces of twenty and thirty feet each. In the galleries it is, we hear, proposed to hold autumnal exhibitions of the applied arts, so as to show what is being done in these, and it is intended to catalogue the objects shown with the names of the craftsmen, not, of course, we suppose, excluding those of the artists if these are not likewise the craftsmen who produced them.

To the Grosvenor Exhibition Her Majesty has sent Hogarth's portraits of Garrick and his wife, and 'A View of the Mall.' The Duke of Devonshire lends Lawrence's portrait of Lady C. Greville, and works of Tillemanns, Riley, and Lambert; the Duke of Westminster, Hogarth's 'Boy with a Kite,' Bonington's 'Seashore,' a fine 'Landscape' by Callcott and two landscapes by Cotman, Turner's 'Conway Castle,' 'Mouth of the Thames,' and 'Dunstanborough Castle'; and Lord Burton lends Gainsborough's 'Countess of Kinnoul,' 'Lady Paulet,' Romney's 'Lady's Portrait,' and Reynolds's 'Admiral Bowyer.' Mr. R. Brocklebank contributes Turner's 'Somer Hill' and Wilkie's 'Letter of Introduction.' Sir Clare Ford exhibits several fine Wilsons, including 'View on the Tiber,' 'The Speculum Dianæ,' 'La Riccia,' 'View on the Strada Nomentana,' and a large and extremely fine 'Landscape with a Sunlit Plain,' as well as Hogarth's 'Sketch for Scene iii. in "A Rake's Progress."' Sir J. Neeld has lent Constable's 'Dedham Vale' and two Etyts. Mr. W. Garnett's landscapes by Wilson and Gainsborough will be much liked. From Ince-Blundell the generous owner has sent his three noble Wilsons, which we have admired in the notice of the treasures at that house among "The Private Collections of England." In the same way we have described, among Earl Cathcart's possessions at Thirsk, that noblest of Romneys, 'Louisa, Countess of Mansfield,' of which J. R. Smith made a fine mezzotint bearing the countess's first title, 'Lady Stormont'; she was a sister of the lovely Mrs. Graham, whose portrait by Gainsborough has enchanted the world since Lord Lynedoch released it from a locked room. To Mr. A. Andrews the Grosvenor Gallery is indebted for several good Cromes, Nasmyths, Starks, Constables, Morlands, and Etyts. The Lord Chief Justice exhibits Severn's characteristic 'Roman Peasants in the Campagna.' Mrs. Carwardine's Romney of 'A Lady (Mrs. Thomas Carwardine) with a Child in her Arms,' portraits, is one of the purest and most tender of his works—a picture unknown except by a print in Mr. H. H. Gilchrist's last book. Mr. D. Price lends Linnell's 'Crossing the Common,' Wilkie's charming 'A Bride's Toilette,' and several Nasmyths. Sir C. Tennant's Hogarth's 'Peg Woffington' and 'Duke of Cumberland' are interesting. Mr. L. Huth's 'Beggars' Opera,' by Hogarth, accompanies the capital 'Lady's Last Stake,' by the same, which we mentioned last week. Mr. Woolner has added to his other contributions Turner's 'Early Morning,' Cosway's 'Child's Portrait' (a little gem, in oil), Mulready's 'Bathers' and 'Cottages,' Bonington's 'Don Quixote in his Study' and 'Yachts in a Squall,' Landseer's 'Lady Rachel Russell' (a child in a green dress), Cotman's 'Off Ecclesbourne,' capital examples by Crome and Constable, and George Arnald's dignified 'The Bellerophon' as a hulk. The Marquis of Lansdowne's contributions are Wilkie's 'The Jew's Harp,' Hogarth's 'Peg Woffington,' Gainsborough's 'Lady Maynard,' and a capital Collins. The total number of pictures will considerably exceed the two hundred at first intended. The exhibition opens on Monday week.

MR. WOOLNER has made much progress with a bust of the Rev. Coutts Trotter, the late Vice-Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, which will probably be deposited in his college as a memorial of one of the most honoured of her sons. The same sculptor will most likely send to the exhibition of the Royal Academy opened in May next a cast of his statue of Sir Stamford Raffles, which we have already described, and which is now set up at Singapore.

THE Society of Medallists held its annual meeting last week, at which the Hon. C. W. Fremantle was again elected president, and Mr. R. S. Poole and Mr. H. A. Grueber secretaries for the ensuing year. The Society has again decided to offer 20*l.* to be competed for as a prize or prizes for medals or models of medals.

MESSRS. SOTHEY, WILKINSON & HODGE sold the following coins and medals last week: William and Mary Coronation Medal, 1689, in gold, 10*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Medal in commemoration of the defeat of the French off Cape Finisterre, 1747, in gold, 21*l.* Medal of William Browne, President of the College of Physicians, 1765, in gold, 11*l.* 10*s.* Hong Kong Pattern Dollar, 1864, *obv.* bust of the Queen, *rev.* four shields arranged cruciformly with star in centre, 20*l.* George III. and Queen Charlotte Coronation Medal, in gold, by Natter, 21*l.* 4*s.* Henry VII. Sovereign, *obv.* the king seated, *rev.* shield on a rose, 12*l.* 12*s.* Proof set of the coinage of Queen Victoria, comprising five-pound piece, sovereign and half-sovereign, 1839; Gothic crown, 1847, half-crown, shilling, sixpence, and groat, and Maundy set, 1839; and penny, halfpenny, and farthing, 32*l.* Manx proof halfpenny and penny in silver, 1733, 7*l.* The total realized was 1,101*l.* 5*s.*

WE record with extreme regret the decease, at Naples, on the morning of the 17th inst., of the celebrated sculptor Signor Giovanni Battista Amendola. He has left so many of his works in England, and was so warmly regarded by many distinguished friends, that his decease will be much lamented. Among his best-known works in England are statuettes of Lady Milford, Mrs. G. Lewis, and Mrs. Alma Tadema, and a bas-relief of Orpheus. He was engaged at the time of his death on a statue of Murat, which the King of Italy, on his last visit to Naples, ordered of him. He was born in January, 1848.

MR. G. J. OAKESHOTT is going to publish, through Mr. Batsford, forty plates, reproduced by photo-lithography from drawings specially prepared by the author, of 'Detail and Ornament of the Italian Renaissance.' In preparing the series the author has been actuated by a desire to bring together in a comparatively small volume such a collection of examples as shall be useful to the architectural student and practitioner, the modeller and sculptor, the wood-carver, the metal worker, and to decorative designers of all classes.

MR. E. M. JESSOPP writes:—

"In your issue of December 17th you are good enough to mention 'The Jackdaw of Rheims,' and attribute the illustrations to Mr. Hodgson, whereas they were mine. May I be permitted to observe that, whatever be the merits or demerits of my method of illustrating 'The Ingoldsby Legends,' it has found no lack of imitators? Mr. Hodgson's illustrations are a case in point, and one publisher went so far as to advertise his plagiarism as 'uniform with "The Jackdaw of Rheims,"' until a letter from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode brought him to see the error of his ways."

Mr. Hodgson had so successfully imitated the style of Mr. Jessopp, that, while we said "unless we are mistaken," we thought that there could hardly be two artists wasting their energies in the same way. Comparison between the rivals is decidedly in favour of Mr. Hodgson.

MANY artists and men of letters will regret to hear that the mother of Mr. Val Prinsep, A.R.A., Mrs. Prinsep (born Pattle), the widow of the late Mr. Henry Thoby Prinsep, member of the Council of India, of Little Holland House, Kensington, died at Brighton on the 15th inst.

THE extensive excavations at the Roman station of Abusina, on the Danube near Ratisbon (now Eining), have at length been concluded, and all the walls of the bath and principal buildings roofed with tiles for protection. Herr Dahlem, the Ratisbon antiquary, has now proved conclusively that the building on the rising ground, described in our columns, when discovered, as the Prætorium, must have been the residence of the Quæstor.

DR. HALBHERR, well known by his discoveries in Crete, has been entrusted by the Italian Ministry of Public Instruction with the delivery of a course of lectures on Greek epigraphy, for the year 1887-8, at the Roman University.

THE death is announced of M. F. Bouvin, who obtained a Third Class Medal in 1849 and one of the Second Class in 1851. In 1870 he was decorated.

THE *Reliquary* for January will contain an article by Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, 'On some Inscribed and Sculptured Stones from the Walls of Chester.'

THE death is announced of Herr H. E. Schirmer, an architect of distinction, who practised much in Norway, especially in restoring the Cathedral of Dronheim, which he effected in an unsparing manner.

MR. WILLIAM MERCER writes from Perugia:—

"Considerable excitement has been produced among traders and dealers in objects of art and antiques of all kinds; by the hurried passage through the Chamber of Deputies on the 26th ult. of a new law, inflicting a tax of 20 per cent. on all such exportations from the kingdom of Italy. Article 13 is rightly perceived by those interested to interfere, almost to the extent of prohibition, with legitimate commerce. In addition to the tax, it expressly forbids any transaction for foreign countries without a special certificate from the appointed officials. The owner must pay the tax on a declaration of value made by himself, but which leaves to the Government the right of acquiring and retaining the precious objects at his valuation. Petitions are being got up making appeal to the Upper House to stay the enforcement of this threatening legislation. To strangers it means one of two things: either they will quietly pack up their purchases and risk discovery on the frontier, with great likelihood of success, or they will go through the prescribed regulations, and submit the goods they have spent time, judgment, and experience in buying to an arbitrary buyer, who will appropriate the choicest bargains, and doubtless leave the numerous counterfeiters a free egress. To prevent smuggling the Italian Government must, therefore, examine all packages at the frontier by means of a new army of Custom House officers, and that game will plainly 'not be worth the candle.' Or (and this alternative is dreadful to contemplate) Government committees of taste will sit for months, probably in many cases for years, discussing the authenticity of a picture, a book, or a medal, and travellers will perform leave to their heirs the enjoyment of treasures bought for their own in their lifetime. What moral right a government has to diminish the selling value of an individual's possessions under the specious plea of the 'preservation of national monuments' I fail to see, unless the Italian Government is prepared to adopt and promulgate the doctrines conveyed in the maxim 'La propriété c'est le vol.'"

A CORRESPONDENT who has lately visited many of the churches in North Cornwall, including Trevalga, St. Juliott, Lesnewth, Minster, and Forrabury, in the Boscawen region, all of which have been more or less restored, calls the attention of the societies for Protecting Ancient Buildings and for Preserving Memorials of the Dead to the unfortunate manner in which numerous slabs of slate, richly carved and incised, after the West-Country fashion of the seventeenth century, have been turned out of doors, although they still bear the names and dates of persons who, under the impression that they had bought the right to protection, were buried in the churches. There was no need whatever for the expulsion of these slabs, which have not only been expelled, but placed in situations more exposed than might have been found for them. They might, at a very small cost, be placed in the porches of the churches out of reach of the weather. More than one of



Roman great strongholds which seem originally to have extended in a chain across the country north and west of Bodmin Moor—such as the camp at Warbstow, Titch Beacon near Warbstow, the circular earthwork between Kew, Endellion, and St. Teath, and Michaelston Beacon—would be all the safer if they were looked after a little more strictly. The numerous churchyard crosses of granite found in this district, and other Celtic records of the same kind which mark the roads here and there, are in fair order. It was noticed the other day that a roadside cross, formerly standing near Trethall, close to Paul in Penwith, has disappeared.

## MUSIC

## THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Royal Academy of Music.  
PRINCES' HALL.—The Bach Choir.  
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—London Symphony Concerts.

THE Royal Academy of Music merely fulfilled an obvious duty in performing the late Principal's finest oratorio, 'St. John the Baptist,' as a mark of respect to his memory. The choice of work could be abundantly justified, for, though the later oratorios are so little known that the revival of any one of them might be looked upon as a novelty, even 'St. John the Baptist' has quite dropped out of the repertory of our leading choral societies, and we do not suppose that the majority of last Saturday's immense audience were at all familiar with the work. While we have no desire whatever to justify this neglect, it may be fair to endeavour to explain it. Works of this calibre, which lie, as it were, on the border line separating mere musicianship from inspiration, excite temporary admiration, but possess no permanent vitality. When such a masterpiece as Mendelssohn's 'St. Paul,' to name but one example, remains on the shelf season after season, what cause remains for wonder that the best utterances of men like Macfarren and Sterndale Bennett are persistently ignored? To complain is easy, but in such a case as the present it is useless. Then, again, it should be remembered that Sir George Macfarren's oratorios belong to a form of the art which is now generally looked upon as exhausted. For good or ill, the didactic and reflective oratorio has given place to the dramatic, and therefore much of 'St. John the Baptist,' especially the bald narration, already sounds a little old-fashioned. Still there are portions which impress the hearer with a sense of power, if not of beauty. The overture is not surpassed by any similar piece by an English composer; the air "I indeed baptize you" is extremely effective, and the scene in Herod's palace shows great thoughtfulness and skill in the art of combining picturesqueness with musicianly feeling. Much credit is due to all concerned, but particularly to Mr. Barnby, for the general excellence of the performance. The choir had obviously been strengthened in the male department for the occasion, and the perfectly smooth and finished rendering of the choruses plainly showed the careful training of the talented conductor. In the principal part Mr. David Hughes displayed a highly promising baritone voice; and Miss Lilly Crabtree in the florid air "I rejoice in my youth," Miss Hannah Jones and Miss Greta Williams in the narration, and Mr. Faithful Pearce as Herod, justified the confidence reposed in

them. Previous to the oratorio the obsequial march from the composer's music to 'Ajax' was played by the orchestra. It may be mentioned here that the subscriptions to the Macfarren Scholarship Fund already amount to over 850*l*.

The Bach Choir made a fresh departure in giving its first concert this season at five o'clock in the afternoon, but judging from the large attendance in the Princes' Hall on Tuesday, the hour is by no means inconvenient to the public. The programme was of a decidedly severe nature, consisting wholly of antiquarian music and modern compositions written in the ancient style. There was no orchestra, and the whole of the choral pieces were given without accompaniment. To amateurs specially interested in what may be termed the *motet* period of musical history the selection was exceedingly attractive. To speak at length of the pieces given would serve no useful purpose, while to enter into detail concerning the life-work of their respective composers would require far more space than it is possible to bestow. The oldest examples comprised an eight-part 'Magnificat' by Gabrieli, two spirited Psalms by Sweelinck, a masterly Christmas Carol by Praetorius, Palestrina's 'Stabat Mater' for eight solo voices and double choir, and Gibbons's fine madrigal "Ah! dere heart." With these were associated Wesley's splendidly written *motet* "Omnia vanitas," Brahms's "Es ist das Heil," and part-songs by Pearsall. The brief notes on the several works given in the book of words were, for the most part, highly commendable, but a statement with regard to Gabrieli is decidedly misleading. It is said that he "bequeathed his signet-ring to his favourite pupil Heinrich Schütz as the only man worthy to wear it. Schütz returned to his native country, and with the ring the supremacy in music passed from Italy to Germany." Here the writer strains the facts in order to make a point. Gabrieli died in 1613, and it would be somewhat difficult to maintain that Germany in the seventeenth century produced any composers superior to Carissimi or Corelli, to name but two out of a long line of gifted Italian musicians. The singing of the Bach Choir on this occasion was at first somewhat unsteady, and the intonation imperfect, but later in the programme there was a marked improvement, though it was evident that the tenors need reinforcing. The vocal music was relieved by Tartini's Violin Sonata in G, and Dr. Hubert Parry's cleverly written Partita in D minor for piano and violin, concerning which we have already spoken on more than one occasion. Dr. Parry took the piano part in both works, and Miss Emily Shinner rendered that for violin in a highly creditable manner. Dr. Villiers Stanford conducted the concert. On March 1st the Bach Choir will perform Purcell's 'Dido and Æneas' and Stanford's Elegiac Ode, and on May 12th Bach's Mass in B minor for the ninth time.

Wagner's Symphony in C was performed for the second time at the sixth London Symphony Concert on Wednesday afternoon, and amateurs had, therefore, an opportunity of atoning for the singular neglect they evinced for the work on its first presentation. They did not avail themselves of it; on the contrary, the audience was even more

depressingly small than before, except in the shilling portions of the hall. We have no explanation to offer for this remarkable absence of curiosity concerning a most interesting juvenile effort of a master who is believed, with reason, to have a host of enthusiastic admirers. It is wholly inexplicable, and no blame can attach to Mr. Henschel for being so woefully mistaken about the temper of the public. As to the symphony itself, a second hearing serves rather to heighten the impression of its imperfections than to reveal new beauties. At least a third of the first movement might be excised with advantage, and the *finale* would be all the better for a little judicious pruning. The slow movement and the *scherzo* are superior, and give a certain value to the whole work. We have nothing but praise for Herr Stavenhagen's rendering of Liszt's so-called Concerto in E flat, and regret that so much skill and power were not employed on better material. The pianist also gave a masterly performance of Bach's Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue, making fewer alterations in the text than is the custom with most pianists of the present day. The only other items in the programme were the Overture to 'Der Freischütz,' and Brahms's 'Academic' Overture.

## Musical Gossip.

A VERY attractive programme was provided at the Saturday Popular Concert, including Schubert's Quartet in D minor, Beethoven's 'Kreutzer' Sonata for piano and violin, and Signor Piatti's 'Ossian's Song' for violoncello. Mr. Charles Halle played Chopin's Nocturne in F minor, the Fantaisie Impromptu in C sharp minor, and the Polonaise in A flat. Mrs. Henschel was the vocalist.

ON Monday Beethoven's Quartet in F, Op. 135, and Schumann's Quintet in E flat, Op. 44, were the most important works. Spohr's pleasing, if not very remarkable, Duet in G for violin and viola, Op. 13, was performed for the first time by Madame Néruda and Herr Straus. Mdlle. Janotha played Chopin's Ballade in A flat, and Miss Liza Lehmann was the vocalist. The concerts are now suspended until Saturday, January 7th.

THE performance of Mr. Cowen's 'Ruth' at the Crystal Palace last Saturday, under the composer's direction, requires little more than formal record, the work having now been so fully criticized that nothing remains to be said concerning it. The choruses were sung by the Novello Choir, who were by no means in their best form, the tenors being weak and frequently flat. Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Watkin Mills resumed their original parts, but Miss Anna Williams undertook the principal rôle, and interpreted it with her usual artistic care. Madame Patey was less satisfactory than Miss Hope Glenn as Naomi, being somewhat out of voice. There was a large audience, and the work was well received.

VERY little need be said concerning the Novello Oratorio Concert on Thursday last week. Mr. J. F. Barnett's 'Ancient Mariner' is not often heard at St. James's Hall, but it is a great favourite with suburban and provincial choral societies, thanks to the abundant flow of pleasing melody which pervades it. Music, comparatively speaking, so simple afforded no difficulty to the Novello Choir, and the performance gave much satisfaction. The soloists were Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. A fine performance of Dr. Stanford's 'Irish' Symphony, under the composer's direction, preceded the cantata, and was very warmly received. Mendelssohn's 114th Psalm concluded the concert.

MR. DANNREUTHER announces his eighteenth series of musical evenings to be given during January and February. The most important works included in the programmes are Nawratil's Second Piano Quintet (Op. 17, in c minor); Bach's Partita in B minor, and Sonata in F minor for piano and violin; Schumann's Quintet, Op. 44, and Trio in D minor; a new sonata for piano and violin by Grieg; Brahms's Second Sonata for piano and violoncello, and his Fourth Trio; Dr. Hubert Parry's Trio in B minor, and Partita in D minor for violin and piano; and Prof. Stanford's Piano Quintet in D minor.

On Friday there were several concerts, to which, however, only brief reference can be made. Mr. J. F. Barnett's 'Ancient Mariner' was performed by the Kensington Orchestral and Choral Society under the direction of Mr. William Buels. At the Steinway Hall Mr. William Nicholl gave the first of a new series of vocal recitals. His programme included a new cycle, entitled 'Songs of the Stream,' for four voices, by Miss Mary Carmichael, in which he was assisted by Miss Louise Phillips, Miss Marguerite Hall, and Mr. Thorndike.

The last performance of the Heckmann Quartet took place at the Princes' Hall on Thursday last week, the programme consisting of Mozart's Quartet in c, No. 6; Schumann's in A minor, Op. 41, No. 1; and Beethoven's in c sharp minor, Op. 131.

The wind instrument programme at the Continental Gallery included a Quartet Concertant for flute, clarinet, horn, and bassoon, by Gebauer; works by Mozart and Rubinstein; and a new and very musicianly song, entitled 'Starry Crowns of Heaven,' by Miss Emily Hawkins, with accompaniment for piano, horn, and harp.

MISS SIGRID ARNOLDSON, the Swedish vocalist, who met with so great success at the Italian Opera performances in London last summer, has been equally fortunate in Paris, where she has appeared in 'Mignon,' creating the utmost enthusiasm.

MR. CHARLES HALLE gave two performances of the 'Messiah' at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Thursday and Friday evenings.

It is announced that Baron Achille Paganini, son of the great violinist, is preparing for publication all the works of his father which still remain in manuscript. Among these are a Concerto in D minor, a grand 'Military Sonata' for the fourth string, the transcription of the Prayer from 'Mosé,' a set of variations on "Nel cor più non mi sento," &c. Should the statement prove correct, the publication will be one of unusual interest to violinists.

THE death is announced from Florence of Madame Barbieri-Nini, in her time one of the greatest dramatic singers of the Italian stage. It was for her that Verdi wrote the principal soprano parts of his 'Macbeth,' 'I Due Foscari,' and 'La Battaglia di Legnano.'

THE copyright of Weber's unfinished opera 'Die Drei Pintos,' which has been completed by Herr Mahler, has been purchased by a Leipzig firm for 20,000 marks. It will be performed for the first time at the Stadt Theatre of Leipzig on January 20th.

A NEW musical society, entitled La Société des Concerts Populaires, has been started at Boulogne, under the direction of M. Mory. The first concert took place on Thursday last week, when David's 'Le Desert' was performed.

MESSRS. BREITKOPF & HÄRTZEL, of Leipzig, have just published in two volumes 'Correspondence between Wagner and Liszt.'

A NEW opera, 'Der Wilde Jäger,' by Herr A. Schulz, has been produced with success at Brunswick.

THE new American National Opera has opened its performances in Philadelphia with Rubinstein's 'Nero.'

## DRAMA

### Dramatic Gossip.

THE acting of the 'Phormio' at Westminster was unusually even, none of the parts being inadequately filled, and the whole went off extremely well. Mr. Olivier in the title part was the most striking of the company, but then he had the part easiest to make effective. The Chremes of Mr. Cox was deserving of much praise. Though some of his speeches were well delivered, Mr. Phillimore as Nausistrata scarcely made the most of his opportunities. The prologue was an unusually neat and agreeable set of verses. The epilogue, on the other hand, was hardly up to the average. It was, of course, full of political allusions, the cleverest of which was the prophecy concerning the grandchild of the Gladstonian member of Parliament:

*Forsitan et hunc olim acceisse juvenit  
Que possit pretio vendere ligna suo.*

A NEW play by Mr. Hamilton Aidé, entitled 'Incognito,' will be played at the Haymarket at a morning performance on the 11th of January in aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Mr. and Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Miss Geneviève Ward, and M. Marius will take part in the representation.

The Olympic is reopened this evening, under the management of Mr. Yorke Stephens, with 'Held by the Enemy,' in which Mr. Willard, Mr. Stephens, and Miss Caroline Hill will appear.

A NEW drama by Mr. John Lart, entitled 'The Monk's Room,' in which Miss Alma Murray played the heroine, was produced at the Prince of Wales's on Tuesday.

THE Empire Theatre reopened on Thursday evening.

'A SCRAP OF PAPER' will be revived at the St. James's early in the new year.

THIS afternoon Terry's Theatre gives 'Hans the Boatman'; and this evening the Gaiety its new burlesque on the subject of 'Frankenstein.' Many of the outlying and transpontine theatres produce their pantomimes to-night.

MR. WILSON BARRETT produced on Thursday 'The Golden Ladder,' the new drama of Mr. G. R. Sims.

'THE DON' is the title of the new play by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merivale, to be played at Toole's Theatre early in the new year.

UPON their next visit to London, which is fixed for May, the Augustin Daly Company, who have been engaged by Mr. Terriss, will appear at the Gaiety Theatre.

A NEW Othello made his debut on Tuesday afternoon at the Vaudeville in the person of Mr. Charles Charrington. When to an effective stage appearance and some declamatory power Mr. Charrington adds a little insight into the character, he may venture to repeat the performance. The Desdemona of Miss Janet Achurch had too much sweetness and too little distinction, yet was full of interest. Mr. Vezin's Iago, which was repeated, is of acknowledged excellence. Miss Carlotta Addison's Emilia was one of the best to be recalled. Mr. Vollaire's Brabantio, Mr. F. Terry's Cassio, and Mr. Ambient's Roderigo also merit honourable mention.

FROM *Dunlop's Stage News*, an amusing and characteristically American leaflet of dramatic gossip, we glean some passages of interest for English readers. Mrs. Potter will soon appear as Juliet and probably as Lady Macbeth. Mrs. Langtry's new play is to be called 'In Chains.' 'The Barrister' is a success at the Boston Museum. Mr. Gillette's version of 'She,' produced at Niblo's Gardens, New York, is a failure.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. J. A.—G. J. H.—H. T.—received.  
G. J.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.  
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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